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CITY ITEMS.

Purviance's Card Photographs, taken in any weather, in all the various popular styles, elegantly or the dozen, at 50 cents each. We guarantee satisfaction. Gallery corner Fifth and Market streets.

The Universalist Fair,
City Hall, goes on grandly, improving as it goes, so it is the last of the fleet hide fair to be the best.

Normal Class.
A new class, to continue for a term of five months, is to be formed in Curry's Normal Institute next Monday. Persons wishing to join it should apply immediately.

W. J. Hook,
dealer in all kinds of Farm Products, Refined Oils and Manufactures generally, No. 69 First street.

Corns, Bunions.
All Diseased Nails immediately and efficaciously cured, without pain or bleeding. Dr. Rendall for a few days longer. Office as heretofore at No. 86 Fifth street; hours 12 to 2 o'clock, P. M.

Browning Association.
By special request of many of our citizens, the young ladies of the Browning Association, connected with the Pittsburgh Female College, have consented to repeat the exhibition of Tableaux on Friday evening, March 2d in the Chapel of the College. Several new scenes have been added. Tickets for sale at C. C. Mellor's, Second street.

Dry Goods
at wholesale and retail. The Messrs. Barker & Co., 84 Market street, propose a grand sale of dress and staple goods for this week, and will offer an unusually large stock at very low prices, and we advise our readers to improve the opportunity which it will present for buying cheap and selecting from a very large stock. Great bargains will be offered.

Singular,
that people will buy inferior articles to restore gray hair, when they can get an article warranted at Park Brill's, No. 77 Federal street.

Colognes,
such as Magnolia, Night Blooming Cereus, Golden Ray of Japan, and all other fine perfumes, for sale at Park Brill's in endless variety at Park & Brill's, 77 Federal street, Allegheny.

Many Already Regret
that they did not invest in "Powers' Perpetual Broom" when they could get their own counties at first cost: those are now paying three prices for territory. There is no county sold in this State. See advertisement of C. Whiddon in another column.

Notice.
Merchants and Grocers please remember that you can find a good assortment of all kinds of Brushes, consisting of Scrubs, Whitewash, Shoe Brushes, Duster, Mill Brushes, Sash Brushes and Pipes of all kinds. Horse, Mane and Hair Brushes, Hacking Tasks, all grades, Lathered and without, and a large assortment of Notions, cheap at No. 246 Liberty street. Thompson & Co.

Dyspepsia.
There is probably no one disease with which mankind are afflicted which is the source of so many ailments as Dyspepsia, or what is more commonly called a sour stomach, and there is no more certain remedy than Roback's stomach Bitters.

A's. A's. A's.
And all classes agree upon this one fact that Sawyer & Boker's Soap is superior to any other washing compound known to the world.

The Daily Commercial

GUBERNATORIAL

The Beaver county Union Convention met in Beaver on Monday, and elected Gen. W. Wilson, Senatorial, and Henry Hice, Esq., representative delegate to the State Convention, instructed to support Hon. W. W. Ketchum for Governor. General J. J. Pearson was the second choice of the people of Beaver.

STATE ITEMS.

The loss by the fire in Philadelphia on Monday evening will reach nearly one million dollars. The stock of Messrs. James Kent, Sante & Co., dry goods dealers, was valued at $600,000, Edward O'Neill, a veteran of the late war, and owner of the Columbia Hotel Company, was also ruined by a falling wall.

A private letter received in Meadville states that the Court House at Mercer was destroyed by fire on Monday evening, and a million dollars worth of records were all saved. Cause of the fire, a defective flue. Insurance on the building, $5,000.

Jonathan Grubb, of Lancaster, a brakeman on the Cumberland Valley railroad, was instantly killed while coupling cars on Sunday morning, by falling from the top of a car. Deceased served through the entire war against the rebellion, and was seven months a prisoner in the South.

Judge Pearson, of Harrisburg, on Monday, admonished the following commissioners to assess the damages sustained by the people of Cumberland county during the rebel invasion of Pennsylvania in 1861, and disburse the sum to *pro rata* among such sufferers: H. N. McAllister, Esq., of the county, John H. Hays, Esq., of Dauphin county, and Thomas Fulton, Esq., of Dauphin county.

The Washington County Agricultural Society will hold their annual exhibition at Washington, Washington borough, on the 29th and 30th of September next.

On Saturday, the 17th instant, Mr. Levi Myers, who resides on the Monongahela City turnpike, about four miles from Pittsburgh, will dispose at public sale on his farm, which measured seven and one inch between the tips of its wings, when measuring two and three-quarter inches in length.

Specimens of the ore found upon the farm of Mr. Good, near Bainbridge, Lancaster county, were recently sent to the Mint at Philadelphia and submitted to the examination of Mr. J. R. Childs, the assayer of the institution. He reported that the ore "is a conglomerate, more commonly known as pudding-stone, and is worthless as containing some gold and silver which are shut up in the pyrites, not scattered through the stone." The assayer adds that the solution, from the specimens he examined, that the amount of gold per ton would be about twenty-six dollars, and that this would not likely be a profit. All these specimens, however, were taken from the surface, and it is the opinion of California miners that, according to all indications, the rocks will turn out much richer as they go down. Messrs. H. V. Mills and H. Acker, of Bainbridge, have leased the farm of Mr. Good, and if further investigations will warrant the undertaking they will proceed to work at the mine. The same indications of gold and silver appeared elsewhere in the neighborhood.

Senatorial Inaccuracies.
Some Senators should be posted on history. Any one since Mr. Trumbull inquired if the State of Tennessee was fighting against the Government she had a right to secession in the Senate. Now, in the first place, Mr. Trumbull should be recollected that the State of Tennessee never was fighting against the Government, although many citizens of that State were in rebellion. Andrew Johnson was a Senator from Tennessee at the time Mr. Trumbull says that State was in rebellion, and Mr. T., (and every other Union Senator) was glad he held on to his seat until Mr. Lincoln made him Military Governor of the State which Mr. T., says was "fighting against the Government," and Mr. T., voted to "order Andrew Johnson's salary as Governor." Mr. Cowan is reported to have said that Pennsylvania at one time had two *Legislatures* in session—two Houses of Representatives and two *Senates*. Mr. C., refers to the troubles of '38, when a bad time, and a bad year. The word "Cunninghan House," each striving for recognition by the only Senate in existence. The alarming state of affairs was mainly produced by the unfitness for the position of party of Hon. Thaddeus Stevens. O. P. Q.

THE CATAWISSA DECISION.—The Philadelphia *Ledger*, speaking of Justice Read's decision annulling the Catawissa contract, says: "On the question of the validity of this contract the preferred stock of the Catawissa railroad advanced nearly par, and after many fluctuations in prices, during the progress of the trial, and since yesterday, on the announcement of the decision which was against the validity of the lease, sold only as low as 25 for the preferred, and about 9 for the common. Over 7,000 shares sold during the day, and since the operations in the stock began, in consequence of the lease, probably the sales exceed twice or three times the amount of the entire capital of the Company, a very heavy interest, and one largely held by the public. During the time of the trial it was announced that the decision, which ever side it favored, would not end it. Yesterday, however, the decision of Justice Read, being very decided in all material points, it was pretty generally regarded that the decision, so far as the courts are concerned, is final. The stock at the close was firmer than expected.

THE SIAMESE TWINS ECLIPSED.—Two negro children are now on exhibition at Raleigh, N. C., that excite much curiosity. They are 12 years of age, and were born of slave parents in Anson county. The *Standard* speaks them as follows:

The connection between these girls is closer than in the Siamese twins, there being more of physical and mental organs common to both. The connection begins at the neck, and terminates at the extremity of the spine, so that touch one at any point of the body below the connection sends a sensation to the brain of the other; while a touch of either above the connection is felt by that one only. They can talk to each of persons at the same time on entirely different subjects; and one can engage in a game of whist while the other reads or sings. The one who has them in charge is now on their former errand, and is now commencing a tour with them under a contract with their parents, who both live by it.

THE PEACH CROP.—A number of the members of the Legislature have furnished peach buds from their respective localities for inspection, in order to discover whether the crop had been entirely destroyed by the extreme cold weather in January. Several hundred buds have been examined here from the counties of Sussex, Warren, Morris, Hunterdon, Somerset, Mercer, Burlington, Essex, Passaic, Bergen and Hudson, and not a single one has been found. About one in Egg Harbor city, in Atlantic county, Peach buds in a twig from the counties of Salem and Cumberland were found not killed. One in about ten were found alive in those from Egg Harbor city, in Atlantic county. Peach buds were killed at eighteen degrees below zero, provided in the northern part of the State they have only felt at least that low on the night of January 5th.—*Newark, N. J., Advertiser.*

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

Equalization of Rights in the States.

The Bill Postponed for the Present.

Mrs. Swisshelm Dismissed from Her Clerkship.

Reorganization of the U. S. Supreme Court.

Proposed Reduction of Income Tax.

Naval Appropriation Bill in Committee.

Argument in Air Line Railroad Case Concluded.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, February 28.

The Debate in the Senate.

The proceedings of the Senate were unusually dull to-day. The floor was occupied by the two New Jersey Senators, who read very long speeches, one of them radical and the other conservative, but neither of sufficient importance to attract any attention.

The Southern Pacific Railroad Bill
Was read at length, but no action was had on it.

The Civil Rights Bill Postponed.

The House to-day debated at length the constitutional amendment to secure each citizen of every State the same right to life, liberty and property, and when about to take a final vote, suddenly postponed it until the middle of April. The movement occasioned considerable surprise, as no intimation of any such tactics was made. It was well understood, however, that on an informal count it was discovered that the requisite two-thirds vote to pass it could not be obtained in the present House. The House on a vote it was deemed best to mildly defeat it by postponing it almost indefinitely.

The Deficiency Bill.

The House spent the rest of the day on the deficiency appropriation bill, and agreed to an item of three thousand dollars to repair the United States Court House at Indianapolis.

Mrs. Jane G. Swisshelm
Was dismissed from her position as clerk in the Quartermaster General's office by the Quartermaster General, with the approval of the Secretary of War, for disrespectful language against the President of the United States in Saturday's edition of the paper which she edits, the *Reconstructionist*. This is the second dismissal from that office for hostility to the Government. A short time ago a Mr. J. Lathrop was dismissed for utterances of disloyalty to the President.

The White House.

To-day has been a very busy one at the Executive mansion. The number calling upon business was unusually large. Lieutenant General Grant, Governor Sharkey, Senator Henderson, Governor Sharkey, Senator elect from Mississippi, and many other members elect from the reconstructed States, had interviews with the President.

Reorganizing the Supreme Court.

The Senate Judiciary Committee to-day had under consideration again a bill reorganizing the Judiciary of the United States. The bill is regarded by the committee as very important, and they are giving it very careful attention. It will not be changed very materially from the original report, and will probably be ready to report after the next meeting.

The Income Tax.

The Ways and Means Committee have received the report of the sub-committee who had the question of incomes under consideration. They have recommended a partial reduction of the income tax. Whether the General Committee will act upon it has not yet been decided, but it is very probable that they will.

The Tax on Cotton
It is proposed by the sub-committee who have the cotton question under consideration to put a tax of five per cent. upon this article. There was an indication by the committee respecting a drawback of two or three cents per pound on all cotton for home consumption. If the committee do not adopt some such arrangement, an effort will be made in the House to secure such an amendment to the tax bill.

The Naval Appropriation Bill.

The Senate Finance Committee to-day finished the consideration of the Naval Appropriation Bill. They have inserted several of the items in the different navy yards which the House struck out. Admiral Smith, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, was before them, and he informed the Committee that it was absolutely necessary to make further provisions for some of the navy yards. Commodore Shubrick, before, increased those for Norfolk and Pensacola in the South, and for New York, Philadelphia and Boston.

The Air Line Railroad.

The Presidents of the Philadelphia and Wilmington, Camden and Amboy, and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads were to-day before the House Special Committee on the Air Line road to New York, and submitted arguments against the bill now before the Committee. The arguments are now closed, and the Committee at their next meeting will decide upon the question. They took the ground that the bill was drawn up under the clause of the Constitution authorizing Congress to provide for the transportation of troops and munitions of war, and that no necessity existed for any such legislation in a time of profound peace.

Important Case Argued.

The famous Massachusetts Liquor case, in which several thousand persons are involved, was finally argued in the Supreme Court to-day by Caleb Cushing. The question at issue is, in brief, whether an internal revenue license from the Government gives a person the right to sell liquor in Massachusetts, in violation of the law of that State prohibiting the same.

To be Considered.

There is some indications that the House will proceed now to the consideration of the long delayed appropriation and loan bills. There is a pressing public necessity for the passage of them.

Mutilated Treasury Notes.

The Comptroller of the Currency has published a circular letter, dated February 15th, 1866, in which he explains that the rigid regulations which are made to apply to the redemption of mutilated Treasury notes is not to be unnoticed as applying to the redemption of mutilated bank notes. The redemption of such notes for the value of their face is left to the discretion of the bank officers. All mutilated notes should be fully redeemed by the banks when it does not appear that fraud was intended. The full face value will be allowed for all mutilated notes returned to the Comptroller's office, when such value was allowed by the bank which redeemed them.

The Late President Lincoln's Salary.

At the request of Mrs. Lincoln the United States Treasurer has invested the twenty-two thousand dollars appropriated by Congress, being the salary of our late lamented President in 5-20 government securities.

Probable Defeat of the Constitutional Amendment—Proposed Changes in the Revenue Law—From El Paso—Tennessee Members to be Admitted—Pennsylvania Conservatives with the President—Termination of the Reciprocity Treaty—Circular from Secretary McCulloch, &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, February 27.

WILL BE DEFEATED.

It is said if Mr. Bingham presses the Constitutional amendment to a vote it will be defeated.

Alexander H. Stephens is expected at Washington this week.

CHANGES IN THE REVENUE LAWS.

The Ways and Means Committee have agreed to report a bill providing for a tax of five cents a pound on cotton, and allowing a drawback on manufactured goods exported; also, a bill exempting from taxation all incomes under one thousand dollars, and taxing all above that sum at the uniform rate of five per cent.

FROM EL PASO.

Official news from El Paso, the seat of the National Government of Mexico, has been received here up to the 21 inst. The French column which had started from Chihuahua to El Paso returned to Chihuahua, and it was understood that all the French troops at the city of Chihuahua were about leaving that State, of which they hold only the capital.

TENNESSEE TO BE ADMITTED.

The indications are, from what has fallen from members of the Reconstruction Committee that a bill will soon be reported from the latter providing for the recognition of the State of Tennessee and the consequent admission of her Senators and Representatives to Congress.

AMENDMENT POSTPONED.

The postponement by the House until the second Tuesday of April of the proposed Constitutional amendment in relation to the protection of life, liberty and property, is regarded by many members of Congress as a defeat of the measure, at least in the present form. While the majority admit that the principle should be enforced, they are not altogether safe in the means recommended by the Committee on Reconstruction to that end.

A PENNSYLVANIA DELEGATION VISIT THE PRESIDENT.

This afternoon a committee of gentlemen from Philadelphia, under the auspices of the James Page Library Company, waited upon the President to present the resolutions of a meeting held on the 23d of February, approving the restoration policy of the Administration, and the present position occupied by the President. Mr. Marshall, chairman of the committee, said the meeting which passed the resolutions was without distinction of party, and in the course of his speech remarked, "we will stand by you, then, rather as conservative citizens than as partisans. We stand by you as Pennsylvanians, as Pennsylvanians always stood by Andrew Jackson, never losing faith in his honesty of purpose to do what was right and his power to do it, and never to submit to what was wrong and his ability to prevent it."

The President responded as follows: "I shall not attempt, gentlemen, to make a formal reply. I beg leave simply to thank you for the kindness you have shown towards me, and the encouragement you have given me by your approbation of my public policy as it has been presented to the consideration of the country. I can only say, that I trust your confidence has not been misplaced, and I can but point you to my past course, and to my public promulgation of the principles by which I am guided, as an evidence of what my future course will be. It now behooves every man to apply himself diligently to the task of understanding the real condition of the country, and to apply the true remedy for all existing evils, by a faithful observance and enforcement of the Constitution and the laws made in pursuance thereof. It has become our object to find a healing plaster, coextensive with the wound that is inflicted on the body. We thought we had found it, and still thinking so, we shall pursue and persevere in our policy until the great result is accomplished, or it shall be defeated by a power over which we have no control. I thank you, gentlemen, for the approbation and encouragement you have extended to me in this occasion, and I repeat what I hope and trust your confidence has not been misplaced."

The various members of the committee were then introduced personally to the President, and retired much pleased with their interview.

CAPTURE AND PROSECUTION OF JEFF. DAVIS.

The Secretary of the Treasury has just issued the following circular to Collectors of Customs and others, in relation to the termination of the reciprocity treaty:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, March 1, 1866.

You have been heretofore advised that the reciprocity treaty between the United States and Her Britanic Majesty, proclaimed on the 11th of September, 1854, will expire on the 17th inst. In the absence of any instructions from this Department to the contrary, you will please consider the special term of 10 days to govern your guide in the assessment and collection of duties on all goods, wares and merchandise imported on and after the 18th inst., into the United States from the British provinces, at such ports as are without appraisers, and where the responsibility of appraising the value and determining the classification of goods, wares, &c., rest upon Collectors of Customs, the utmost care should be exercised in determining the value of any goods, wares, &c., imported from any British provinces. It is competent for any appraiser, or any one acting as an appraiser, to take the sworn statement in the case of principal cities of either of the provinces of Great Britain.

[Signed] H. MCCULLOCH,
Secretary of the Treasury.

FROM BOSTON.

Green, the Malden Murderer, Finally Sentenced to be Hung.

BOSTON, February 28.—The executive council, at a meeting this afternoon, appointed Wednesday, the 18th of April next, for the execution of Edward Green, for the murder of young Converse, assistant cashier of the Malden Bank, some two years ago. The vote of the council was unanimous.

The Middletown Explosion.

THE SATURNALIA OF STEAM.

Terrible Boiler Explosion—Six Persons Killed—A Blast Furnace Completely Demolished—A Scene of Desolation.

[From the Lancaster Express of Tuesday.]

One of the most terrible boiler explosions probably experienced in this State for several years, occurred at the Middletown Furnaces, owned by Meily & Co., at Middletown, Dauphin county, at a quarter past seven o'clock last evening, by which the building was completely demolished, and six persons killed. The report of the catastrophe reached this city at an early hour this morning, but as the accounts were much exaggerated, and as none of the accounts could be relied upon, we dispatched one of our reporters to the locality in the 11:10 A. M. train west, who returned at three o'clock this afternoon, with the following particulars of the affair:

The furnaces of Meily & Co. are situated several hundred yards south of the Pennsylvania Railroad on the banks of the canal. There are two furnaces belonging to the firm closely connected together, but No. 1 was not in blast as it is now undergoing repairs. No. 2, in which the explosion occurred, was in full blast and was turning out from a hundred and fifty to a hundred and sixty tons of pig iron per week. No. 1 was not injured, but its companion now exhibits a complete wreck. Last evening, just about half an hour after the furnace had made run, and while the day hands were about to change off and the night hands take their place the explosion occurred. There were two distinct reports, following each other after a lapse of about half a minute, and both were terrific—so much so, indeed, that the concussion was heard for a distance of six miles from the scene, and every house in the town and the immediate neighborhood was shaken, and in some cases doors bursted open and children thrown from their beds.

The boilers, of which there were four, were 41 feet long by 48 inches in diameter, and were nearly new, having been put in but four months since. The cause of the explosion has not been ascertained. The engineer and fireman were evidently tried to stop him, for, as was proved at court, but the Bishop did not appear to notice the matter, and kept on his way. Mrs. Bishop, by the way, is almost the only pear that the cloak does not deform,—stopped and talked with her, showing her manifestations of deference and even of a degree of toadyism as averse to politeness as to common sense.

When the Queen came in, a quick throb of emotion was felt by many of the brilliant throng, who rose as she passed. There have been such silly stories afloat about her, the protection and wealth and fashion which she has extravagant, that even apart from the novelty of seeing her in the House and the genuine sympathy which many of her subjects undoubtedly have felt trouble possessed, there was enough to account for the agitation which her entrance produced. But she saw all, and felt, and was resolved to steel her nerves to any trial, and it was easy to see that she did so—once give way to the curiosity natural in such a crowd, and you meet the thousand eyes at her front, her feelings must be, hardly, less than if she had just reached the throne, we all looked to see what she would do with the cloak there, which is called the State robe, but she settled it herself confidently made that she had resolved upon wearing it, and she did wear it once—and the last visit to the House. The question was soon decided by the Queen sitting down on it. The Prince of Wales, a slim, fairest girl, whose white dress was extremely becoming, attempted to drag it from her notice, but another, by the Queen saw the act and put it back quickly with her hand. This is an age of compromises, and this vexed question, which has agitated the brains of the aristocracy for the last three weeks, was settled by the Queen being put round the chair without touching the cloak.

The official Court circular to-day tells us exactly what the Queen wore—consisted of—it was a rich black silk dress, with train trimmed with miniver and crape, a wary Queen of Scots cap, with long white lace veil, ornamented with large diamonds, with a small coronet of diamonds and sapphires worn at the back of the head. The Queen also wore a diamond and cross (the latter containing the miniature of the Prince Consort), and the celebrated Koh-i-noor as a brooch, as well as the riband and the star of the Order of the Garter and the Victoria and Albert Order. The black breadths on her arms and her black gloves aided the dress in producing the effect of deep mourning, and the peculiar head-dress added to the effect, though it really had not itself that character. The diamonds round her throat, on her wrists and above her forehead, especially as the light caught the light as she moved; but in truth she scarcely fitted into the picture, and her eyes for the most part on the floor,—looking now and then at a particular part of the house as though seeking a friendly face. The young Princesses were affectionately eager in their attentions. The most trying moments of all were those that elapsed between the entrance of the Queen and of Parliament and the arrival of the members. The Commons, a quarter or eight and twenty minutes—they seemed a quarter of an hour—was so still that the slightest cough or even a sigh was heard; and a lot of people were there for the intention; every one was looking at the elderly lady who sat, with sombre, melancholy face, on the throne. Anything was possible, and no one could read her thoughts and understand their bitterness, as she thought of the moment when the lower house tumbled in, the Lord Chancellor, whom a French journalist on my right persists in calling Lyndhurst (in anticipation of the next quer,—went through the form of offering the speech, written on a sheet of foolscap, to the Queen, who returned it to him, and he duly returned to him,—for a part of the compromise was that the Queen should read the speech, but not read it herself. On getting it into his hands, the learned old gentleman commenced reading in a high tone of voice, but was unable to continue long at that pitch, and before he had finished he was hardly audible. Sometimes, to embarrass a peculiar passage, he would raise his eyes from the paper, and nod his head to the words; sometimes when he did so, he lost his place, and had to finger about for his eyeglasses to help him in finding it again.

The Queen gave a little kiss, before rising on rising to leave, was so sweetly given, was such a lovely smile, the first that had been removed. The kiss to the Prince seemed unexpected, and was very pretty, and appeared to tell his mother she had passed the ordeal with spirit and courage. The Princesses also kissed their eldest brother, and he, in return, kissed the young Prince Arthur, pretending to retain him in the chamber after the rest of the family had gone.

The Queen was not in the room more than twenty minutes, but it was necessary to have the speech read to her, and on 518 routes the people are still destitute of postal facilities because the latter could not be read.

The North Carolina House of Commons has passed to a third reading the bill relating to freedmen; one section of which allows negroes to testify in cases where they are concerned in person or property.

Rev. Dr. Craven, a Presbyterian minister, preached in the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, (Fifth avenue,) New York, Sunday evening, agreeably to previous announcement, to an overflowing congregation. His subject was Christian unity. The sermon considered the most flagrant disregard of Bishop Potter's famous pastoral that has yet been published, and shutting out Rev. J. C. Smith. Whether it will subject him to Episcopal discipline or not remains to be seen.

A SUIT of interest and importance to all stock speculators is in progress in the Supreme Court in New York city, in which one George H. Danforth is defendant, and the representatives of the Fredmen's Bureau are the plaintiffs. The sum involved is some three hundred thousand dollars. The complaint is that Danforth under false pretences, brought about the sale of one hundred and thirty-six shares of the National Bank Note Company's stock belonging to the estate in question, for sixty dollars per share, or a total of eight thousand, one hundred and sixty dollars, the shares at the time being worth one hundred thousand dollars. On these shares, indeed, Danforth realized in dividends in thirteen months nearly thirty-five thousand dollars. It is urged that Danforth, as trustee of the company, and familiar with its profits, false-ly represented and injuriously concealed the facts on which he procured the sale. The suit is for the value of the shares and dividends, and damages, in all nearly three hundred thousand dollars. The suit involves many interesting questions relative to the organization of stock companies and the sale of their stock.

The next statement of the public debt, it is said, will show a decrease during the month of two millions of dollars.

The Union Congressional National Committee are having the speeches of Senators Trumbull and Fessenden, delivered recently, printed together for a campaign document.

The story circulated by correspondents of the New York *Herald* to the effect that officers of the Freedmen's Bureau were engaged in the negro trading business, is contradicted by General Howard.

The St. Louis *Democrat* says a man named Henry S. Metcalf, of Paris, Ill., visited that city on Wednesday (to save himself further trouble), and gave bond in the sum of $10,000 for his appearance at court in June next. He was charged with complicity in obtaining money under false pretenses from J. Walker and other merchants of St. Louis, to the amount of $25,000; was advanced upon the representation (which may or may not be true) of Metcalf and others that Walker had a lot of negroes in the field.

The West Baton Rouge (La.) *Sugar Planter* states that one of the former planters of that parish, W. D. Winter, has just returned from New York, where he has engaged three hundred Germans as laborers on his plantation in the Atchafalaya. In anticipation of the arrival he has purchased ploughs, gearing, etc., preparatory to putting in large crops of cotton.

The chief surgeon and medical officer of the Freedmen's Bureau represents that during the month of December the total number of freedmen treated at the various hospitals throughout the Southern States, principally for malarious diseases, was 13,112. The deaths during the period were 633, discharged, 12,459. The actual cost for medicines amounted to $1 90 for each patient. The friends of the sick freedmen bore the rest of the expense.

The University of Michigan is now the largest university in this country, containing one thousand and fifty-one students, divided as follows: Medical department, 400; law, three hundred; literary, two hundred and sixty-five. Three new assistant professors have been appointed—one in each department. The institution is well endowed, and tuition is free.

The Postoffice Department, lately advertised for the letting of over 700 routes in Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Alabama, and Georgia, but only 181 were let, and on 518 routes the people are still destitute of postal facilities because the lets could not be made.

The government profess to be satisfied with the first night's debate of the session, and as another thorough-going radical has joined them, I think that it may be considered that they mean mischief to more than one of the abuses which Lord Palmerston refused to touch.

A Rich Man that did not Forget his Origin.

There is in New York a gentleman of ample fortune, which he received by inheritance, and who has never inflicted upon himself an occupation, except that of sensibly spending and enjoying the handsome income. He is one of the does not ignore his plebian origin or affect aristocra ic notions, as his recent selection of a coat-of-arms for a new carriage, by the way, is almost the only pear that the cloak does not deform,—stopped and talked with her, showing her manifestations of deference and even of a degree of toadyism as averse to politeness as to common sense.

When the Queen came in, a quick throb of emotion was felt by many of the brilliant throng, who rose as she passed. There have been such silly stories afloat about her, the protection and wealth and fashion which she has extravagant, that even apart from the novelty of seeing her in the House and the genuine sympathy which many of her subjects undoubtedly have felt trouble possessed, there was enough to account for the agitation which her entrance produced. But she saw all, and felt, and was resolved to steel her nerves to any trial, and it was easy to see that she did so—once give way to the curiosity natural in such a crowd, and you meet the thousand eyes at her front, her feelings must be, hardly, less than if she had just reached the throne, we all looked to see what she would do with the cloak there, which is called the State robe, but she settled it herself confidently made that she had resolved upon wearing it, and she did wear it once—and the last visit to the House. The question was soon decided by the Queen sitting down on it. The Prince of Wales, a slim, fairest girl, whose white dress was extremely becoming, attempted to drag it from her notice, but another, by the Queen saw the act and put it back quickly with her hand. This is an age of compromises, and this vexed question, which has agitated the brains of the aristocracy for the last three weeks, was settled by the Queen being put round the chair without touching the cloak.

The official Court circular to-day tells us exactly what the Queen wore—consisted of—it was a rich black silk dress, with train trimmed with miniver and crape, a wary Queen of Scots cap, with long white lace veil, ornamented with large diamonds, with a small coronet of diamonds and sapphires worn at the back of the head. The Queen also wore a diamond and cross (the latter containing the miniature of the Prince Consort), and the celebrated Koh-i-noor as a brooch, as well as the riband and the star of the Order of the Garter and the Victoria and Albert Order. The black breadths on her arms and her black gloves aided the dress in producing the effect of deep mourning, and the peculiar head-dress added to the effect, though it really had not itself that character. The diamonds round her throat, on her wrists and above her forehead, especially as the light caught the light as she moved; but in truth she scarcely fitted into the picture, and her eyes for the most part on the floor,—looking now and then at a particular part of the house as though seeking a friendly face. The young Princesses were affectionately eager in their attentions. The most trying moments of all were those that elapsed between the entrance of the Queen and of Parliament and the arrival of the members. The Commons, a quarter or eight and twenty minutes—they seemed a quarter of an hour—was so still that the slightest cough or even a sigh was heard; and a lot of people were there for the intention; every one was looking at the elderly lady who sat, with sombre, melancholy face, on the throne. Anything was possible, and no one could read her thoughts and understand their bitterness, as she thought of the moment when the lower house tumbled in, the Lord Chancellor, whom a French journalist on my right persists in calling Lyndhurst (in anticipation of the next quer,—went through the form of offering the speech, written on a sheet of foolscap, to the Queen, who returned it to him, and he duly returned to him,—for a part of the compromise was that the Queen should read the speech, but not read it herself. On getting it into his hands, the learned old gentleman commenced reading in a high tone of voice, but was unable to continue long at that pitch, and before he had finished he was hardly audible. Sometimes, to embarrass a peculiar passage, he would raise his eyes from the paper, and nod his head to the words; sometimes when he did so, he lost his place, and had to finger about for his eyeglasses to help him in finding it again.

The Queen gave a little kiss, before rising on rising to leave, was so sweetly given, was such a lovely smile, the first that had been removed. The kiss to the Prince seemed unexpected, and was very pretty, and appeared to tell his mother she had passed the ordeal with spirit and courage. The Princesses also kissed their eldest brother, and he, in return, kissed the young Prince Arthur, pretending to retain him in the chamber after the rest of the family had gone.

The Queen was not in the room more than twenty minutes, but it was necessary to have the speech read to her, and on 518 routes the people are still destitute of postal facilities because the lets could not be made.

The North Carolina House of Commons has passed to a third reading the bill relating to freedmen; one section of which allows negroes to testify in cases where they are concerned in person or property.

Rev. Dr. Craven, a Presbyterian minister, preached in the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, (Fifth avenue,) New York, Sunday evening, agreeably to previous announcement, to an overflowing congregation. His subject was Christian unity. The sermon considered the most flagrant disregard of Bishop Potter's famous pastoral that has yet been published, and shutting out Rev. J. C. Smith. Whether it will subject him to Episcopal discipline or not remains to be seen.

A SUIT of interest and importance to all stock speculators is in progress in the Supreme Court in New York city, in which one George H. Danforth is defendant, and the representatives of the Freedmen's Bureau are the plaintiffs. The sum involved is some three hundred thousand dollars. The complaint is that Danforth under false pretences, brought about the sale of one hundred and thirty-six shares of the National Bank Note Company's stock belonging to the estate in question, for sixty dollars per share, or a total of eight thousand, one hundred and sixty dollars, the shares at the time being worth one hundred thousand dollars. On these shares, indeed, Danforth realized in dividends in thirteen months nearly thirty-five thousand dollars. It is urged that Danforth, as trustee of the company, and familiar with its profits, falsely represented and injuriously concealed the facts on which he procured the sale. The suit is for the value of the shares and dividends, and damages, in all nearly three hundred thousand dollars. The suit involves many interesting questions relative to the organization of stock companies and the sale of their stock.

The Steamboat Fire at St. Louis.

It Originated on the Steamer Peytona

Loss over $700,000.

Full Particulars of the Disaster.

Telegraphic Correspondence Cincinnati Commercial.

ST. LOUIS, February 27.—The following are the full particulars of the disastrous steamboat fire: Shortly before midnight last night, the alarm was sounded from the Peytona, lying at the wharf, at the foot of Walnut street, which boat in less that five minutes was enveloped in a sheet of flame, which spread so rapidly that all efforts to arrest its progress were fruitless. The steamer Luna, lying above, and the great Leviathan and Dictator, lying below, soon fell an easy prey, and in less than ten minutes from the time the first alarm was given, all four of the boats were wrapped in a sheet of flame. The firemen, with their usual exertions, worked to the extent of their powers, but the nature of the material was such that the fury of the fire could not be stayed. The origin, as usual in such instances, is beyond conjecture. Some are of the opinion that it was the work of incendiaries, but the true cause is, doubtless, from negligence. The flames were first discovered near the cook-house of the Peytona, in which there was a fire a few hours previous. No lives were lost, so far as known, but the pilot of the Peytona fractured his leg in jumping down to the hurricane roof. The Dictator was principally owned in Pittsburgh, where she was insured for $112,000. She was valued at $160,000. C. J. Cadwey, of this city, owned one quarter. The sale of the Peytona was recovered, with the contents uninjured.

A party of eight or ten firemen, led by Charles Farris, clerk of the Leviathan, boarded the boat since the flames had been partly subdued, and removed the contents of the safe, which contained about $2,000 in drafts. The Adams Express Company's safe was on board the Luna. It contained nothing of value, the money from the South having been fortunately sent up by railroad from Cairo.

The Dictator was partially loaded, and the Luna had freight on her, all of which was destroyed. The following, as near as we can learn, are the losses: Dictator, $160,000; Leviathan, $150,000; Luna, $100,000; Peytona, $115,000; freight on levee, $20,000; freight on Dictator, $100,000; freight on Luna, $20,000, making a total loss of over $700,000, only a trifle of which is covered by insurance.

The hulls of all the boats except the Luna are sunk, and rendered perfectly useless. The Star Eagle Continental, Kate Kearney and Tacony were moved away when the fire first broke out, and were thus saved from a similar fate of the others.

The river is still rising and there is more than thirty feet of water to-night. The terrible loss of boats, last night, by fire, will very seriously embarrass our business community, as loss upon loss in quick succession will be apt to unsettle confidence, which must remain unabated before active, wide the interest upon its investments can be realized to any extent. The loss to the Atlantic and Mississippi Steamship Company is very large, and will be added to the many which they have suffered, will, no doubt, bear pretty heavily upon them, but the company is composed of wealthy men, and can afford and easily dismayed or discouraged.

The following is the list of steamboats *Granite* under date of February 27th, says: The losses by the steamboat fire last night prove to be considerably less than at first reported. The losses are reported as follows: the Dictator, $150,000; the Leviathan, $150,000; the Luna, $100,000; the Peytona, $120,000; freight on the Dictator, from $60,000 to $100,000; on the Luna, $50,000; on the Peytona, $25,000. The boats were insured in Cincinnati and Pittsburgh offices for one hundred and twelve thousand dollars. A. B. Sexton, Esq., and Capt. Geo. Devol, each had own one-fifth of each of the Atlantic & Mississippi Company's boats, have $20,000 insurance on their interest in each of the boats, placed in Cincinnati offices. It is believed that the disastrous fire originated from the carelessness of employees." There were eleven persons present at the time of the explosion, but with the exception of those killed, several of whom were badly wounded.

The loss of Messrs. Meilly & Co. will reach from $30,000 to $35,000, on which there is no insurance.

Laborers are already engaged in clearing away the wreck, and the firm expect to be again in operation in the course of a couple of months.

Opening of Parliament by Queen Victoria.

The London correspondent of the Boston *Post* makes an interesting report of the recent opening of Parliament by Queen Victoria, from which we quote the following:

"But where was the Queen? We had been waiting for her hours, and when the hands of the clock were getting near to the time of her arrival. The Princess of Wales preceded her by half an hour, and when you saw her she came sack with an air of dignity not in the least degree overstrained, and rendered agreeable by her kind and pretty smile. The Princess of Wales looked no better than his fellow peers in his robes. But I will not tell the story of the Queen's getting stout, and in ten years' time will be big if not absolutely corpulent. The Princess wore a black dress, with a scarlet velvet mantle, trimmed with ermine, which fell from her shoulder a crimson ribbon. She had on also a tiara, or small crown, and a long veil pendant from the back of her head. Prince Arthur, who is her little military, whom he loved devotedly, and whose happiness was the first object of his life (I honest toil, when the Cahill gang found him out. They recognized him, and knew the secret of his life. They surrounded him, tempted him, and at last made his house the rendezvous where they concocted their plans and executed their plunder. In vain did poor Cregan implore and entreat. He was told by the gang that they did not ignore his plebian origin or affect aristo-would be necessary to kill him if he refused. At the request of his wife, will show. The lady, during the old carriage unfashionable, got the body consented, and her husband is seen every day, and was anxious that the "family" coat-of-arms should be painted upon his carriage. This the husband consented to, promising to sketch them on the painter when the vehicle was finished.

At that time the lady

The Daily Commercial

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1866.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondence on matters of public interest is solicited and will be thankfully received from our friends in all parts of the country, but in accompanied by reasonable names. More especially whatever relates to the discovery and production of oil lands and reliable oil intelligence in general, will be acceptable and be inserted. Events of local interest, mechanical and agricultural results, inventions and improvements of every description, clearly and briefly described, are solicited. To secure attention communications should be terse and entirely reliable, and should be written as promptly as possible.

Letters on the business department of the newspaper, or printing office should be addressed to the Publishers or Managers. Communications designed for the paper should be addressed to the Editor.

THE CABINET.

The *Tribune* has the following concerning the Cabinet:

Those members of the Cabinet, we are informed on good authority, who contemplated resigning their portfolios, have concluded, after consulting with friends, to await the action of the President. They prefer to give him the opportunity of removing them, should he think proper, rather than of accepting their resignations. It is not improbable that he will accept the alternative in the case of one of these gentlemen, in the course of a few days. Such is the expectation at Washington among persons well informed.

On what we regard as good authority we are enabled to say, that the continuance of the Cabinet may be reasonably expected. The future depends not solely on the President. It is not too much to say, that should certain men set themselves about it, they could break up the Cabinet, and cause the worst fears to be realized, in one week, and they can, if they will, having had something to do in producing the present state of things, do a great deal to have another state of things exist in the future. The next few days will be full of interest.

A QUESTION TO BE MET.

The proceedings of Congress from day to day present the inquiry, upon what reasonable grounds are, for instance, the representatives from Tennessee still excluded from that body? We believe the inquiry is one which the people before long will demand an answer to, and that if the answer be not sufficient, as in our judgment it will not, the people will insist upon those representatives being admitted. There are many reasons why Tennessee should be exempted from the rigorous policy which might properly be applied to other Southern States. After the so-called ordinance of secession was passed, those of her representatives who remained loyal retained their seats in Congress and united heartily with the loyal North in the work of putting down the rebellion, until the expiration of the terms for which they had been elected. No one questioned their right to do so—no one even thought of denying them the right to speak and vote in Congress, for the time had arrived when the loyal people of the North, up till the close of the war, that Tennessee was not nor ever had been out of the Union. If Tennessee, during a state of rebellion, when a terrible war was waging within her boundaries, was still in the Union and her representatives were entitled to seats in Congress and to participate in the legislation of the country, how can it be said that now that the rebellion is ended and the war over, Tennessee is out of the Union, and the same men who remained faithful and loyal throughout the rebellion are not worthy of seats in Congress? It is absurd to say that Tennessee during the war, when her rebellious citizens obstructed the authority of the Federal Government, was in the Union and entitled to representation, but that when the war terminated, and the people ceased to oppose the Government, Tennessee became separated from the Union and lost her right to be represented in Congress.

We have never had a great deal of patience with the conquered province idea, and are now as far as ever from being willing to adopt it. It cannot be recognized without doing violence to the history of the past five years, and the sooner we discourage it the sooner will be the end of a troublesome question. By acknowledging that the seceded States are now merely conquered provinces, we but say that they were really out of the Union. This, however, is not the case. Everything that was done by the Government during the war was upon the idea that no State had seceded, and none could secede from the Union; and we certainly had better means of knowing why we carried on the war than we have now.

We believe that this is true more especially in the case of Tennessee, and that Congress should admit her representatives without delay, having regard, however, to their loyalty and the other necessary qualifications. That Colonel STOKES and Mr. MAYNARD are loyal, there can be no room to doubt—more thoroughly and sincerely loyal than many now in Congress from Northern States. The former fought in the field for his government, while some now in Congress encouraged the rebellion. If it be right to keep him out it is but duty to expel them. The admission of such men as STOKES and MAYNARD, and the exclusion of others whose record for loyalty is bad, will stimulate other States and districts to send the proper kind of men if they ever desire to be represented. The question should be determined not by States but in the case of every man presenting his credentials. We do not think that the question can be settled for all the States at once—probably not for one State alone. It will in the end be a matter for detail. Loyal representatives will be admitted and the disloyal excluded. A State may send a portion of each, but the districts which shall send the disloyal will remain unrepresented until they become more loyal.

A MISAPPREHENSION CORRECTING ITSELF.

When the President returned the Freedmen's Bureau Bill with his veto, the impression which almost universally took possession of the public mind, was that the Freedmen from that moment were to be remanded to the mercy of their late masters, that the veto deprived them of the protection which up to that moment they had enjoyed under Federal enactment and supervision. Perhaps, under the circumstances, this was but natural, but it was not according to the real state of the case. The veto deprived the Freedmen of nothing that they before enjoyed,—on the contrary, the President, while withholding his signature from the new bill, declared that he desired to see the Freedmen protected in their liberty and property, and their entire independence and equality in making contracts. The objects sought to be secured he did not object to, but to certain provisions of the new bill. He said, furthermore, that the present law being operative for one year more or longer, there was no great necessity for haste, and that he would cheerfully co-operate with Congress in perfecting a measure free from constitutional objections.

Notwithstanding this, the impression did prevail extensively that the President had either deprived the Freedmen of the protection they had enjoyed under the existing law, or was disposed in some manner to do so. The truth is, neither was the fact, it is not now, nor is it probable it will be hereafter. The grave misapprehension which followed the veto is correcting itself. While it would, as we believe, have been a far wiser course in the President to have signed the Bill, it is to be perceived now that the veto itself does not change the position of the Freedmen at all; no law or provision of law has been abolished or altered by it, and all the protection they have heretofore had they will continue to receive.

It has all along, among the friends of freedom and humanity, been a matter of sincere congratulation that under the operations of Gen. HOWARD's Bureau, things were working so well both for the freedmen and the country. Already, all else favoring, a large cotton crop has been assured. As a general thing, the evidence is, the Freedmen throughout the South are improving in every essential repect, and as a whole, thanks to the Bureau, their condition is quite satisfactory. Proof in point we quote as follows:

"Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for Tennessee, reports to Gen. Howard, under a late date, encouragingly on freedmen's affairs within that State, and says that there is a great advancement in education, industry and good order. There are but few dependents upon Government charity within the State. Organizations among the freedmen themselves for the relief of their own poor have rendered valuable service. The Nashville Provident Association, a society conducted by the colored people of that city, has its coal and wood depots, soup houses, physicians, &c. This society relieves the suffering poor without distinction of color, and its daily reports exhibit that a greater number of white than of colored persons are its beneficiaries. Many widows and orphans, whose husbands and fathers fell fighting to perpetuate slavery, have been fed and warmed through the kindly offices of this association. The Legislature has, by recent enactment, admitted colored persons to the rights of suitors and witnesses in the Courts of the State, and the law will become operative at an early date. Preparations are being made for vigorous industry during the coming year; fences are being rebuilt, plantations stocked, and a general determination manifested to redeem the waste places, repair the desolations of war, and again place the Commonwealth on the high road to prosperity."

Here we have some of the results of the Freedmen's Bureau, to the continuance of which, for one or, if necessary, two years, the President pledges himself. Now while it may be urged that the Freedmen should be made certain of protection for a longer period, we submit that there is no ground for the impression that the President is hostile to them, that he is favoring the smothered rebellious feeling in this regard—much less that he has robbed the Freedmen of the protection they have hitherto enjoyed.

DUTY TO THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. SHERMAN, in the United States Senate, made the following excellent remarks in relation to the duties owed by that body to the President:

"We must maintain him, support him, aid him. Even where I disagree with him, I will not arraign him before the people of the country, and thus discredit and dishonor him. Rather, if he is weak we ought to uphold him the more; if he is dark, we ought to strengthen him by our resolution; if he lacks any of the elements necessary to constitute him a good man, we ought to supply them by our courage and constancy. We do no good to our cause, no good to our country, by a constant criumination of the President, by arraigning him here, as I have heard him arraigned, as a tyrant and imbecile. Sir, he is the instrument in the hands of Almighty God, holding the executive power of this government for four years. If he is a weak man, we must support him; if we allow his authority to be subdued and overrun, we destroy the authority of the government of the United States."

Every person even moderately endowed with the sentiments of honor and patriotism, will readily accord to the noble spirit of these sentences. They stand in brilliant contrast to the outbursts of partisan abuse to which the Senator alludes. There is an intrinsic excellence in the Senator's sentiments, that makes them independent of the conditions of time, place and individual. As above written they were three years ago spoken of our lamented ABRAHAM LINCOLN, then President of the United States. But they offer reasonable suggestions to every honest, patriotic mind now. They are in a high tone of a patriotism that soars sublimely above the atmosphere of mere personal or party considerations. In fact, they are in excellent harmony with the utterances of the same high-minded Senator on a very recent occasion, in application to President JOHNSON.

The duties to the office to-day are not dissimilar to those of the days referred to, nor has reprehensive speech been more freely indulged now than then. But as the issue of compliance with the high and magnificent sentiments and suggestions of Mr. SHERMAN was found to be most happy on the country, and the faith reposed in Mr. LINCOLN was justified by the results, so may we now be nerved to the performance of duty to the high office and to him who occupies it, by the hope that similar results will ensue and the republic will receive no detriment.

THE PANHANDLE.

The little rectangle, which forms a sort of appendage or extension to the northwest corner of West Virginia, is a part of this young State which it has reason to prize very highly. It has often been asked how this singular boundary line was formed. It was in the simplest way possible. The order to the surveyor was to follow and extend the line of MASON and DIXON four degrees West and then due North. The Panhandle, between the West line of Pennsylvania and the Ohio river was thus formed and left under the jurisdiction of Virginia. It is a beautiful and rich portion of the State, forming four small counties, Marshall, Ohio, Brooke and Hancock.

The city of Wheeling is the only large town in the tract. The area is composed of fine farming lands, arable and grazing, and is occupied by an active, intelligent and generally wealthy population. About 170,000 acres of land are improved and 112,000 unimproved. Where the more modern style of farming is adopted, very large crops are raised. But some of the people adhere to the plan of planting with the same kind of crop as long as the land will bear anything. Hence there are such instructive contrasts as this, one man raising 228 bushels of corn on two acres and another raising 20 bushels to the acre, the former being a premium patch, and the latter raised on a field on which, without ever being manured, corn had been raised for sixty years in succession. The Panhandle subsists a large number of sheep, from which the farmers derive excellent profits. On the 281,000 acres of land, improved and unimproved, there are no less than 112,000 sheep. There are probably more now, for these are the statistics of three years ago. In the three counties of Ohio, Brooke and Hancock, the sheep are in the proportion of one to every acre and a half of farming land. The price of land in the several counties is in proportion to the number of sheep kept in them. The city of Wheeling does not raise the price of farm land in Ohio county, in which it is located, any higher than it is in Brooke county which has no towns. It is in both proportioned to their number of sheep. In Hancock county, with 40 per cent. less of sheep, the price is 25 per cent. less; and in Marshall county, with one-fourth as many sheep, the price of land is only one-half what it is in Ohio and Brooke. Sheep in all the Panhandle, appear to be the standard of value in farming. The tillage of the land is productive, yielding about 135,000 bushels of wheat and 600,000 corn.

THE FRUIT PROSPECT.

In this region, we understand, the severe weather in the early part of the month seriously affected the peach trees, and the prospect for the ensuing crop is very slim. Favored locations may have escaped, but as a general thing, we are told, the blight forbids the idea of more than a meagre crop.

A TRAITOR TOAST.—The statement in one of the Philadelphia Sunday papers that at the regular meeting of the Copperhead Club in that city, WILLIAM B. REED proposed the toast, "JEFFERSON DAVIS—the greatest statesman in America," is confirmed by the *Telegraph*, which pronounces it "literally true." Only one member, Mr. JOSIAH RANDALL, resented this indignity to our loyal statesmen, by withdrawing from an organization so openly traitorous. It should be remembered that this Club will be represented in the Democratic State Convention on Monday next, that will probably place in nomination a candidate entertaining the same sentiments as those above. Let this be remembered during the contest which ends in October next.

THE Pittsburgh *Post* does not publish Governor COX's letter, and the Democrats in general, we believe, profess great ignorance of it, and there is some danger that their love for President JOHNSON may abate. The Democrats are told that their support of him can do him no particular harm, and it may do them some good, and that is the light Mr. JOHNSON is disposed to regard it. Letters of condolence that have been poured in upon him. All this the *Post* studiously ignores. As a professed friend of the President, this seems to be unkind, and to indicate that, after all, it has not the confidence in Mr. JOHNSON it has been trying to make people believe.

THE New York Money Market sympathises with the improved political prospect at Washington. There are some things whereof Wall street is the true indicator, and no better proof is needed of the close relations of the Union party with the national credit than the agitation of the money market, and the deep concern felt by reflecting men at the prospect of the party's disruption.

THE Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger* asserts that "there is not a scintilla of truth in the statement that the President, a week before the veto, expressed to General HOWARD his approval of the Bureau bill as it then stood. He has not approved it since the hour of its existence, and his veto was, therefore, in exact consonance with his firm convictions from the start."

GOV. ORR, of South Carolina, has vetoed a bill establishing police regulations for the freedmen of that State, which were similar to those which controlled them as slaves. He says that having become free they are entitled to security in their new rights. This was the first bill ever vetoed by a South Carolina Governor. South Carolina's Governor, more wise than the Legislature, is entitled to the credit which he deserves for the act.

ABOUT OLD BOOKS.

The recent resurrection of Old Books, through our columns, has called out the following from a correspondent:

Old Books.

In speaking of printed books as old, an implied reference is had to the introduction of the art of printing into different countries. An American book, printed in 1638, would be called extremely old—being, in fact, the date of the first book printed in the country; but English books of this date would scarcely be called old at all: still less, if we have reference to German books.

The art of printing, that is, by means of moveable metal types, capable of being separated and recomposed for the production of new books, was invented about 1450, by John Guttenburg, a native of the city of Mentz, in Germany.

The name of this man is by no means a household word over the whole world; thousands, nay, millions of persons have never heard it pronounced. But if the merits of the man were to be weighed by the result of his invention—by its effect on the civilization and progress of the human race—his fame ought to be more resplendent than that of all others.

Prior to the invention of Guttenburg, during the first half of the 15th century, what is called block-printing was known and practiced after a rude fashion. In this, rude outline figures and a line or two of text were cut in relief and printed from, exactly in the manner of modern wood-cut printing.

Block-printing was chiefly used for the production of playing cards—and manuals of devotion. Thus the art, master of all arts, was in its inception made to serve very different masters, and it has done so ever since.

The first book of considerable size printed was the Bible of Guttenburg, in 1455. In 1462 another Bible was printed by Faust & Schoeffer, the former partners of Guttenburg. For beauty of type and ink and excellence of the paper, these productions of infant art are truly surprising, and have scarcely been excelled since.

In 1462, a military occupation of the city of Mentz, is said to have dispersed the printing operatives, and thus spread over Europe the benefits of an invention, of which the details had hitherto been jealously kept secret. It was soon introduced into all the chief cities of Europe; civil and religious commotions soon shewed that a new power had been introduced into the world. It found its way into Italy in 1465; into France in 1469, and into Spain in 1475. It was brought to England in 1474 by William Caxton.

Before the year 1500 the number of editions of books published amounted to from 18,000 to 20,000. Counting each addition at 300 copies, this would make about 6 millions of volumes, during the half century preceding 1500. The mass of these has no doubt (deservedly) perished, but books of this period are not extremely rare and perhaps thousands might be found in the libraries of the country. The writer has seen, some years since, in the possession of a literary gentleman of Pittsburgh one or two volumes of the date of about 1490.

After 1500 the number of printed books begins to exceed all calculation. Those bearing date in the first half of the 16th century are by no means rare or difficult to obtain. The antiquarian bookstores of Germany and indeed throughout Europe are filled with these and those of later date—masses of decayed, worm-eaten, tattered volumes, almost less than a sight and smell,—the excretions of the ancient palaces, baronial castles and chateaux of those countries whose present possessors are no longer willing to afford them house room. It is in these purlieus, that the collectors of rare curiosities, bibliomaniacs, so-called, generally speaking, of advanced age, congregate and find their elysium, prying into chaffering for, and finally buying this offal of the past time.

In speaking thus of old books I do not wish to include those rare specimens of art which are to be found in many old books. Every scholar knows how much additional pleasure even additional clearness of perception and understanding comes from the reading of a well printed book.

It is too late to hope that this passion of collecting books merely because they are old, will not find an entrance into our country; it has done so; and ship loads of early printed books, of no intrinsic value, are almost daily imported into New York.

Of all the appliances of which wealth is capable, this seems the most absurd and profitless. Its expenditure in luxurious dwellings, equipagery, &c., affords profitable employment to a numerous class, but the purchase of old books of the kind mentioned, encourages no kind of industry, and, as between the buyer and seller, there is no *quid pro quo*—the latter gives his money for—nothing.

To the Editor of the Commercial:

Your Butler correspondent, I think, misunderstood the statement made by the Camden Association as to their owning a copy of the oldest printed book in America. From the date mentioned the book in question is one of the earliest printed in America, of which the first of any consequence was the Bay Psalm Book, printed at Cambridge, Mass., in 1640.

There is a considerable difference in point of antiquity, between the oldest printed book in America and the oldest book printed in America—both are rare and valuable. William Caxton introduced printing into England in A. D. 1474, eighteen years before America was discovered. Caxton printed sixty-four different works previous to the year 1492. There are specimens to be found in the Harvard and other libraries, and in one or two private collections of books in this country.

The books described by Dr. Jacobus and H. A. R., in your paper this morning, are rare and deserve to be, as they doubtless are, highly prized by their possessors.

Yours truly, WM. N. D.

February 28th, 1866.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Your notes on the subject of "Old Books," I have no doubt will bring out a full list of all the venerable volumes in our vicinity.

I have in my library a number of sermons delivered by one William Pierson of the University of Cambridge, England, and printed at Cambridge in 1613. It includes a very learned "Discourse on witchcraft," fully satisfactory, no doubt, to the learned divine as to the existence of said craft.

I notice a peculiar typographical mark used in the volume. For instance, the word upon is printed "vpo," abstinence, "abstiece," the stroke over the vowel standing for the letter "n." Yours, J. S. FERGUSON.

The Iron Strike—The Strikers in Their Own Defense.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

We notice in your issue of the COMMERCIAL of Monday, the 26th, a correspondence which undertakes to correct a statement that appeared in the *Dispatch*, entitled the "Iron Workers' Strike," in which said correspondent charges the author of said article with a deliberate misrepresentation, or an unlicensed amount of stupidity regarding the facts in the case. We take the liberty of calling the attention of our readers, not otherwise accurately informed, to the fact that we here protest that the effusions of said correspondent of the COMMERCIAL are entirely false. We here assert, in the name of that class of working men commonly called "boilers," that said correspondent displays a double amount of stupidity regarding the facts in the case, when he says, "From absolute knowledge, I assert that the majority of our steadiest and most intelligent, and best workmen, are ready to go to work to-day at the required reduction, but are prevented from doing so by their Union." In the name of the boilers of Pittsburgh and vicinity, we here assert the foregoing remark to be false, for we have four different branches of the Boilers' Union in Pittsburgh and vicinity. Said branches are composed of the best, most sober, and most intelligent, industrious, skilled workmen. After receiving notice of the reduction, said Boilers' Union held a joint convention, After having fully and carefully investigated the matter, it was found that no reduction had taken place in the selling prices of iron, nor had the manufacturers contemplated any reduction. We likewise found that prices of living are as high now as at any time since the war began, and that staples have not been reduced, while rents are higher now than ever before, and still advancing. Under these circumstances we concluded that we could not, nor would we suffer any reduction in our wages. At our regular meetings on last Saturday night, we reindorsed the same sentiments.

Your correspondent states that at no point in the United States is skilled labor receiving or demanding such exorbitant rates of wages as in Pittsburgh and vicinity. We here assert that at no place in the United States are boilers paid less for the same amount of work, we boilers of Pittsburgh having to work from four to five hours each day "fixing" and making "bottom," independent of the amount of work required in boiling a ton of iron, causing us and our helpers to work from ten to twelve hours in the morning, a four o'clock in the afternoon, and sometimes later. Your correspondent has taken great pains in representing the East to Pittsburgh, for, a boiler east of the mountains has neither "bottom" nor "fix" to make, except once a week, which is generally done on Sunday morning, and will stand a double turn for the week. Why has not your correspondent the honesty to compare the West with Pittsburgh, where they have the same amount of labor to perform—from Sharon to Cleveland, and Buffalo, and Wyandotte, Michigan—receiving the same wages as Pittsburgh boilers, and now working at eight dollars per turn, while in Steubenville, Wheeling, and on to St. Louis they are receiving from eight dollars and twenty-five cents to nine dollars per ton, and at some of these points the manufacturers have to pay more for raw material than in Pittsburgh, and still it seems to pay them to keep their mills running.

Your correspondent says the boiler is the chief malcontent in the present strike, who has been receiving eight dollars per ton, said boiler having to pay from $3 25 to $4 per ton for help, and does not work more than two-thirds of the year. Now that they have kept us idle during this spell of cold weather, when two men could work a furnace, how do they expect we can pay an extra helper during the warm weather and keep ourselves and families? Your correspondent, in answer to the *Dispatch*, says that at no time in the history of iron business, has it yielded more profits than the last year, to which he makes answer, "to the workmen, I grant you, certainly not to the manufacturers, as witness the many sighs and groans, that have been offered on the altar of despair." In answer, we refer our citizens to their own sworn statement in the income tax, said assessment increasing from $500,000 to $850,000. We likewise refer any parties interested, to take a walk among the different establishments and inquire the increase they have made to the capacity of said establishments within the last four years, and likewise the number of new rolling mills erected in the vicinity; and then inquire among the working men how they have bettered their condition in the same time, and you will find that previous to the war, they could rent a house for themselves and families, while at present they cannot afford more than half a house. To use his own language, "straws show which way the wind blows."

He also remarks, that "in 1864, when iron was commanding 8½ cents per pound, and sold readily at that, we paid skilled labor only the same figure as we pay now, with the exception of the boiler, who then received nine dollars per ton." Now, if the manufacturers could afford to pay the four dollars per ton for boiling when selling their iron at two and one-half cents per pound, then, when commanding eight and one-half cents per pound, we ought to receive $13 50 per ton. But, our country being undergoing a tremendous struggle, we thought not to increase it by dissensions at home, as it is well known we had no strike during those four years. Now they have caused this strike themselves. He alludes with a flourish to a notice in the *Chronicle* of one Dennis Heilker, who deserted his wife, she testifying that he was "a boiler by profession, and could keep her like a lady, his wages being forty-two dollars per week." Now if he had such access to pass-books, he knew in his heart that statement was false. Even if he made one ton each day for six days, it would only come to $48 00, he having to pay out of that, nineteen and one-half dollars to a helper. In conclusion, we hope the manufacturers will be generous enough "to live and let live," for the time is come when we can take our little ones and advance farther West.

Yours, respectfully, MANY BOILERS.

"America."

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

In an editorial of the COMMERCIAL of February 21, headed "A Name," after referring to the want of a name for the people of the United States—a "handy" name—you conclude by saying, "Let it be *Americans*, then, at home and abroad."

Having been in many of the countries of South America, and there met with persons from other States of South America, as well as many from each part of Europe, I observed that universally the name "American" is distinctly understood to apply to people of the United States. If, for example, one of the Brazilian military police, many of whom are negroes, is knocked down in a row, and you hear it said, "Oh, it was an 'Englishman,' or a 'German,' or an 'American,'" there is no possibility of mistaking who is meant in either case; the latter means some one from the "United States." So it is in Montevideo, Buenos Ayre, Santa Fe, and in other South American Republics. None of them refer to their own people as Americans, or own as South Americans, as a general thing. They are Brazilians, Chilians, Buenos Ayreans, &c. So, whether rightfully or not, we people of the United States, abroad, are already rated and classed as "Americans."

During the recent dreadful civil war, the people of those countries watched the stirring events of the battles, and the various accompanying occurrences with great interest, and generally referred to the two contending parties as "Federal" and "Confederate," respectively, though sometimes using the terms—Americans of the *North*, Americans of the *South*.

It is to be hoped that soon there will be no longer a political line of demarcation separating our glorious country into North and South. Not instantly; a little time must be allowed for the softening of asperities, even after all sound political arrangements are consummated. But soon, in the full of a great nation, let us hope that the national feeling of all the people of the United States will be *one*—a feeling of love for our great country, where the grandest experiment the world has ever known in regard to self-government among men, is now in the course of being perfected—so far as human government may approach perfection—a feeling that it is an *honor* to be an "American." The name is well known and understood abroad. We have only to make it equally general and well understood at *home*. Let us honor the name by making Americans every where honorable citizens of an honorable nation.

"AMERICAN."

PERSONAL.

—The following is said to be on the tomb of a lady who is buried in Baltimore. She was born in 1613, and died in 1738:

"Stop passenger until my life you read:
The living may go knowledge by the dead.
Five times five years I lived a virgin's life,
Ten times five years I was a Widow's wife,
Ten times five years I lived a widow chaste.
Now married off to mortal life, I rest,
Between my cradles and my grave have been
Eight mighty kings of England and a queen.
Four times five years the Commonwealth I saw.
Ten times the subjects rose against the law.
Twice did I see old prelacy pulled down,
And twice the cloak was found for the gown.
An end to Stuart's race I say may more.
My native country sold for Kinglessore.
Once desolation by my life have seen,
I have an end to all persecutions seen."

—Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes's latest poems, called "Eugenie," and complimenting the French Empress on her heroic conduct toward the cholera patients in the Paris hospitals, was sent, in manuscript, some time ago to the Empress by his friend, Mr. Bemis. A note of thanks has been received by the talented young poet and lecturer, and the author of "Froth and Dregs" may now be proud of having attracted royal acknowledgments.

—A notable innovation of an Eastern custom is thus noted by the *Opinion Nationale* of Paris: "A singular incident marked the second ball at the Tuileries. The wife of Savfet-Pasha, the Embassador of the Porte, appeared in a European costume, with her face uncovered. She is perhaps the first Turkish lady that has thus openly discarded the national prejudices of her country women. She wore an elegant Parisian robe, and danced several mazurkas with perfect grace and distinction."

—Mr. Thurlow Weed, after a residence of thirty-five years in Albany, N. Y., last week shook the dust of that city from his soles and counts himself no longer a citizen there. On Friday he sold his residence in Albany for $12,000, and on Saturday purchased the residence of Richard M. Blatchford, on Twelfth street, near Fifth Avenue, New York, for $50,000. Mr. Weed is great athletes of the Albany press for the third of a century. Mr. Croswell, of the Argus and Weed of the *Journal*, are now both residents of New York.

—The death of L. P. Peacock, the author of several romances which were very popular some few years since, occurred recently in Boston, at the age of eighty. Mr. Peacock wrote several volumes of no great moment, though commanding some temporary reputation, among which were Critical Cassin, Nigatinos Abbey, Headlong Hall and some others. He was an intimate friend of Percy Bysse Shelley, and of his first wife, Miss Westbrook. Some of his *jeux d'esprit* on paper money, published in 1825-6, left a large circulation behind.

—In the course of a speech delivered at the Burns Club annual dinner, at Edinburg, recently, Professor Masson, who proposed the toast, "The Poets of Scotland," said he had made exclamation that probably in the British Islands, at the present moment, there are two hundred thousand people writing verses. "I stick to two hundred thousand exactly. I can tell you the reason which I make out in my calculations, but they satisfied myself at the moment when I made them. And they are not only making verses, but I suppose you making verses which would have attained a reputation had they been written in the last century. The quantity of verses which is being produced in English and Irish vicarages, in Scotch manses, and in all sorts of places is enormous. I do not think that it is any objection to the existence of such a body of writers that their productions are becoming numerous. Perhaps in some future time the distinction of a man will be—and he will be a gobemouche who makes the assertion—that he has not written a book."

—The following is told of General Charrtte, the Lorenzo Dow of France, who died recently, aged eighty-three years. Once when shooting in Hertfordshire, where he had hired a manor, he trespassed upon the estate of a deceased nobleman. The keeper remonstrated with him in the most civil manner, and informed the owner of his master, he heard the General blazing away at the pheasants in an adjoining cover, and directly he came out he would attention to him. The keeper desired his keeper to turn him off and shoot one of his dogs, and added as he was hurrying away to meet him: "Here, you fellow, get behind my pony, and then you will get back quicker." The keeper complied. He was civil enough to speak up with the General, and told him to cease firing, for if he did not he should have to kill one of his dogs by his lordship's order. "Very well," replied the General, "one of my dogs is an old one, and the other a young one; you had better shoot the old one first, and then you can shoot your pony; and as I am not sure where my hat or flask is, I don't see why I should go away." The keeper, rendered more irate than ever by this cool speech, shot the dog instantaneously; but, before he could count, the whole treasure of a pony was only fit for a kennel. Then addressing the terrified keeper he said, "If you shoot again, the next barrel is for yourself." But the servant would stop to listen to nothing more, and hastened away with all possible speed to his master. Imagine the astonishment of the lord of the manor the next morning, when he received a challenge from the General, for having caused the death of his dog at the hands of the servant. Of course the challenge was not accepted.

—The Consul General of the Pontifical States at New York denies that the Pope, in his letter to Jeff. Davis, intended that a recognition of the Southern Confederacy should be implied. It was this letter that caused the comments in Mr. Bancroft's recent oration.

—President Jackson said forty-two years ago that if we would take from our agriculture 600,000 men, women and children, to be employed in manufactories, and you will at once give a home market for more breadstuffs than all Europe now gives us. We have been long enough subject to the policy of British merchants. It is time we should become a little more Americanized

—The Empress of Mexico has purchased at Jerusalem what is said to be the house and habitation of the Virgin Mary. The Empress intends to erect a magnificent chateau on the spot.

—Hon. Moses F. Odell, formerly a Representative in Congress from the Third District of New York, and now Naval Officer of the port of New York continues dangerously ill at his residence in Brooklyn. His disease, at first, was supposed to be rheumatism, with a paralytic tendency, from which he was recovering when he rode out. The exposure caused a relapse, and diptheria was indicated, and resisted all medicines given the patient, so that during the last week of last week a consultation of physicians was called upon the case of Mr. Odell, and the four medical gentlemen decided that there was but one which gave very little ground for hope.

—Mrs. Avonia Brookes *nee* Jones, the American actress, is creating a *furore* in London. She is always attended by a superb Newfoundland dog covered with wonderful intelligence. He is admitted into the saloons which his mistress graces; in railway carriages and steamboats he holds his place by her side, *in defiance of rules*; he sleeps beneath her bed; sits in a private box at the theatre, and watches over her at rehearsals. On one occasion, when she was rehearsing "Leah," and had to be dragged from the stage, the dog, who seemed to understand every thing except this apparent mal-treatment of his mistress, leaped upon the man who had seized her, and but for timely interference, would have inflicted condign punishment.

AMERICAN MISSIONS IN PERSIA.—The Shah of Persia has recently performed an act which will be grateful to many American. Some years since the Papal Nestorians took possession of a church at Ardeshal, to the exclusion of the friends of the Protestant missionary. He built a memorial title thereto. Repeated efforts have been made to restore the building to its legitimate use but French influence has been too strong. Now, however, the Shah has granted the rightful owners a new site for a church, and he has subscribed £100 towards its erection. The English Ambassador, who has befriended, the American missionaries in many ways, has also subscribed £50 for the same object; and he promises at the same time to interest his English friends in the enterprise. The solution of a perplexing question can hardly fail to excite a favorable influence upon the endeavors of the missionaries.

THE MASSACHUSETTS FISHING FLEET.—The Gloucester (Mass.) *Advertiser* says that the vessels that have arrived during the past week have brought in good fares, and the prospects for a successful season looks quite encouraging. Most of the fleet have returned from their first trips, and although many of them have suffered severely in the loss of cables, anchors, &c., yet, on the whole, the voyages will average pay-ing ones.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

General Spinner, United States Treasurer, after a full conference with a number of officers of national banks assented to the regulations which required the average deposits to be estimated from balances at the close of the day, and before exchanges on the next day, and upon representations made by such officers, has decided so far to modify the regulations as to permit the omission or deduction from the balance of any day of such checks on other banks as have been received for collection, or of such checks as have been deposited but not collected which have been received by the bank with the understanding that such checks will not be drawn against, although the checks deposited may have been entered to the credit of the depositor as a convenience in keeping accounts.

The demand for fractional currency has increased to such an extent that the force of the Printing Bureau is working daily and nightly to furnish supplies. About two-thirds of the issue of this character are distributed to United States Assistant Treasurers in the Southern States, as securities for an equal amount of other currency destroyed by the Government. Hence, for every issue there is a cancellation.

The American Iron and Steel Association commenced the business of their Association on Tuesday, at Washington. Delegates from all parts of the country are present. On Wednesday night, able addresses were made by Senator Howe, of Wisconsin, and Representatives Farnsworth, of Illinois; Schenck, of Ohio; Conkling, of New York, and others.

The consumption of oil as a lubricator is immense. There are some railroad companies whose annual expenses are more than $100,000 for lubricators alone. A single manufacturer in England (Young) testified in court to having manufactured and sold over 400,000 gallons of lubricating oil in one year, at about one dollar per gallon. This oil was distilled from coal.

In view of the expected arrival of some ten or fifteen thousand negro troops from Texas, where they are to be paid off and mustered out of service, that village is fast becoming the cynosure of all sutlers' eyes. We understand that not only every available house, room and cellar about the place has been engaged, but that probably many temporary sheds will be put up for the sale and display of goods. Rents are high, of course. One room—some fifteen by twenty feet—has been rented for the price of one hundred dollars per month. Other rooms, in accordance with their location, convenience, &c., command proportionate rents, and cellars and corners large enough to hold a keg of ale, a box of candy, a firkin of Boston and a few pipe cakes, have readily been rented at from $5 to $10 per month.

A record kept by one of the officers of the Redemption Division of the Treasury Department shows that counterfeits from the fifty dollar to one dollar on the five cent note, amounting in the aggregate to $70 75, were detected and marked by that office last week. WORDEN & SMITH presented in exchange for other issues, whether the holder is willing or not, are branded indelibly with the word "counterfeit."

A work of art, unique and most curious, is now on exhibition at New York. It may, perhaps, be called a "Dual Mortuary Memorial," being a miniature monument to those two Presidents of the United States, about whom the world says the most, and whose memory is most loved by the people—Washington and Lincoln. The structure is ten feet high, and is a compound of the obelisk, the tablet, the sarcophagus, the shrine, the urn, the column, and every other known device for perpetuating the memory of the dead. The material of this curious monument is as unusual as its design is unique, it being composed entirely of sea shells. The shells are almost infinite in variety, and are of every possible shade of every imaginable color. At about three feet from the base there is a Grecian temple supported by five pillars, which sustain a dome. On the floor of this temple rests a sarcophagus, on the lid of which is wrought in curiously colored shells the American flag, and on the sides are both in shell, and other appropriate ornaments. Above this the structure assumes the form of the obelisk, and rises to the height of ten feet. Around the ground the whole being surmounted by the golden eagle resting on a globe. Five photographs of Lincoln and Mr. Washington are placed in the appropriate shield-shaped receptacles on the sides of the shaft.

M. L. Sullivant, Esq., of Champaign county, Illinois, owns seventy thousand acres of as good land as is to be found on the face of the globe, twenty-three thousand acres of which is under fence and active cultivation, while the remainder is used for herding purposes. Mr. S. gives employment to two hundred farm hands, two hundred horses, and a large number of cattle.

There was a magnificent and extraordinary display of aurora borealis on Tuesday night, at Springfield, Mass., long, luminous shafts of light shooting up from almost every part of the heavens. The telegraph was struck dumb by the phenomenon, and all use of it had to be suspended, soon after midnight, for twenty-five minutes. A spark from this great natural battery entered the telegraph office in that city, and fused the "sounder" and burned out one of the brass wedges with a tremulous, bright flame as large as an ordinary gas-light.

Earl Russell Not Sustained by British Law Authority.

The London *Law Magazine*, the leading organ of the English legal profession, in a recent notice of Mr. Bemis's pamphlet on "Foreign Recognition," &c., makes some admissions in regard to the great issues on which our government is at variance with England, which are well worth noticing to the credit of English candor. Says the *Law Magazine*:

"We all know how persistently the United States complained, during the whole of the war, of the precipitancy of this country in recognizing the Confederate States as an independent power. We all know equally well the grounds on which this reception was defended. Of late, however, his lordship (Earl Russell) has put forward another ground for recognition, and has vindicated the step on the ground that *was done by the United States in abandoning the coasts of the Southern States*.

"Mr. Bemis has attempted to show (1) that the new position of Lord Russell that the American proclamation of blockade was not the ground of recognition of confederate belligerency, because, supposing the former to have been officially communicated, it does not appear that it was communicated at the date of the latter; and, furthermore, (2) that if one of the majority. Suffice it for races, and its relation to our American Continent and Islands, to refer to Mr. Bemis's work. Price $1 25, sent by T. R. CALLENDER, third and Walnut sts., Philadelphia. mar1-lmsd

RUSH OF EMIGRATION FROM GERMANY.—A letter from Frankfort-on-the-Main states: The emigration to your country continues unabated. In 1865 there went via Hamburg 30,000 passengers, and embarked in ninety-four sailing vessels and thirty steamers; in 1864 there left only 19,767, on thirty ships. The number of those who left Europe via Bremen had reached already, in November last, over 42,000. From the little town of Herrenberg, in Wurtemburg, which numbers only 2,419 inhabitants, left during the last year 57 persons, taking with them, in hard cash, over 25,000 gilders. There is not the least doubt that the emigration from Europe during 1866 will reach at least 300,000 persons.

ABOUT SNUFF.—The Commissioner of Internal revenue has decided that snuff of all descriptions, when prepared for use, is liable to a tax of forty cents per pound. The preparation of the material may be made before or after grinding, and may consist of picking, scenting, or other processes, the tax accruing only on the sale, consumption, or removal for consumption or sale, of snuff prepared for use. The preparation for use, whether before or after grinding, is held to be an essential part of the manufacture, and the party so preparing the snuff is liable for a manufacturer's license, and to p

The Daily Commercial

A FEARFUL STORY.

The Great Storm on the Prairie.

A FATHER AND DAUGHTER LOST.

The Body Thirty Hours in a Snow-Drift!

[From the New Hampton (Iowa) Courier, Feb. 28.]

The age of miracles surely has not passed. The past few days have been fraught with as much of the fearful, of anxiety, hope and thankfulness to our people as seldom falls to the lot of a community. The storm of Tuesday night and Wednesday will long be remembered as one of the utmost severity, and the subjoined narrative of exposure and suffering partakes so much of the marvellous that in its contemplation the mind is bewildered, and we are compelled to acknowledge it as one of those "interpositions" sent to teach us how wonderful are His ways who "marks even the fall of a sparrow."

On Tuesday evening, 13th inst., Mr. E. T. Runnion of our town visited Jacksonville, eight miles distant, on business, and returning called at the residence of W. E. Bendy, one mile this side, to see his daughter, Mrs. F. B. Wood. After supper Mrs. W. resolved to accompany her father home, and hastily clad herself for that purpose. Leaving Mr. Weed in the house, father and daughter proceeded to where the horse had been tied to find them gone, out of sight. Pursuing the team for some distance and finding it impossible to overtake it, Mr. Runnion implored his daughter to return, while he would make his way home alone. This she would not consent to do (feeling quite able to perform the journey), unless he should accompany her and remain for the night. This was about seven and eight o'clock. The weather was then comparatively mild—with no wind and a light snow falling. They pursued their journey for a time without difficulty, but the night being quite dark and the snow having obliterated their track, they lost the road, bearing to the south of the uninhabited prairie. Both were conscious that they were lost, yet neither breathed it to the other. During the long hours from their departure from Mr. Beach's house until twelve o'clock, the storm-king had been gathering his strength, which now burst forth in such fearful fury from the northwest that it would seem impossible that any mere mortal could brave it and live. Benumbed, lost upon the trackless waste, their steps followed by a pack of prairie wolves whose quick, sharp bark frequently rose above the howling wind, their thoughts cannot be portrayed, each having full consciousness of their areal peril, yet concealing it, and encouraging each other. At last exhausted nature could do no more, both were stunned, and saw the folly of further contest with the storm till the day should dawn, and laid down beneath a snow drift to watch for daylight. Mrs. Weed wore a beaver hood, had a "cloud" or scarf about her neck, a shawl, and a blanket, which she had thrown on her arm when leaving the house. The rude wind sweeping furiously above them, the blind, drifting snow, the howling of the wolves, the suffering from cold, the thoughts of friends beloved, of death—all heightened a picture which can never be erased from their memories! The dawn came, and with it the fury of the storm increased. Mr. Runnion knew himself to be on Plum creek, and resolved to strike for the nearest house, some two miles distant, but Mrs. Weed was so chilled that she could not walk, and after being carried some thirty or forty rods she begged her father to leave her and seek assistance. They sat down and calmly bade the matter over, yet she was freezing all the while. To leave his child thus was a bitter thought; but what will not a parent do to save his offspring? Still more mortal she must perish, and that speedily, unless sooner soon come, he sought a place to leave her; breaking, he let, as he supposed, of a little ravine from which the water had receded, and making a cavity of some two feet in depth and of sufficient length, he laid her in it, wrapping her blanket and shawl around her, and the scarf about her face. They kissed and parted. Then covering her with snow, marking the spot as best he could, with a heavy heart and a sad look at the spot where lay his treasure, he made his way down the creek to the New Hampton and Watson road, thence to the house of Mr. Utley, a mile from town, arriving there near 8 o'clock A. M. (Wednesday), exhausted, with hands and nearly frozen, and related his story as soon told; and, although the storm was raging fearfully, and the distance of the prairie great, some three miles distant on the bleak prairie, seemed like hoping against hope, the call of bleed instinct did not plead in vain. Quickly a train was harnessed, and Mr. Gilbert Vincent and Mr. M. M. Utley, with Mr. Runnion, started for the place where the party had lain beneath the drift during the night. They searched in vain until about 2 P. M., passing Grand directly over the spot where she lay. Finding the search vain, and Mr. Runnion fast failing from exposure and exhaustion, with heavy hearts the party returned that evening. Mr. Runnion was taken to the house of Mr. Utley, where born Mr. and Mrs. Utley were assiduous in administering to his comfort—the storm raging too fearfully, and his system too much shattered to think of bringing him home that night.

Thursday morning the storm had abated; the sun was clear and bright, and the drivers deemed the necessary and safest from it the day before, 20 degrees below zero. Mr. Runnion was brought home by Mr. Utley, and his fearful story flew from house to house; brave hearts and willing hands were not wanting. Cutters, sleigh-loads of men, accompanied by Dr. Mixer—who was careful to have restoratives—were swiftly on the search. On such vibrations as the heart between hope and fear as were visible to every face, those that ate must be found alive, and fear that such hope was vain. The party reached the supposed locality where Mrs. Weed was left by her husband, and the search commenced. Passing on either side of the creek, feeling every drift, and such, and so, they. We had forgot to state that Mr. R. had broken off some small willows and stuck them in the snow distinctly over the supposed grave, however, were entirely covered by the snow which had drifted over the entire place, with only the vague certainty that they might be near her, they persevered, guided alone by such instructions as Mr. Runnion in his enfeebled and bewildered state was able to give. At about 10 o'clock one of the party stepping directly over the spot, the snow into the cavity where she lay. She was found! Oh, rapture! A joyous shout rang out, and in less time than we can pen the recital, overcoats and shawls were spread upon the snow, shovels procured from a sleigh, and she was raised insensible from the snowy bed where she had lain for thirty hours! Placed in a sleigh, shielding her as much as possible from the wind with the air, the party drove with all speed to the nearest house, that of Mr. Long, some three miles, and unremitting efforts of Dr. Mixer were crowned with success—she was saved! We are informed by reason came slowly, the shock to the system being so great and the sinking of the pulse so frequent, that for a time fears for the destruction of a perfect resuscitation. Late in the evening she was brought to town in a semi-conscious state, but rallied in the evening, and has been conscious ever since, though suffering much from pain and great exhaustion.

Strange to say, the lady, if nothing unforeseen should intervene, will recover. Her feet and ankles, and one of her hands are frozen, and the former badly, though her medical attendant Dr. Mixer) thinks he will save them with probably slight "sloughing" of parts of the feet, altogether, this is one of the most wonderful cases we ever knew. It appears like something so incredible for belief, that Mr. Runnion even could have undergone so much exposure; but then we know that Mrs. Weed was exposed in the wild storm of Tuesday night, and lay for thirty hours beneath the snow, and is yet alive, is marvelous and rather too comprehensive. When found, she had moved but little from where her father had placed her. The ice upon which she had been laid had melted from her oddly heat, and when found she lay in the bed of the creek, nearly every part of her clothing was saturated with water. Her feet were cold as frozen in the morning before her father left her, and to the providential fact of her coming in contact with the water, may be ascribed not merely the safety of her limbs, but the preservation of her life.

Mrs. Weed is too weak to converse but little, nor would it be proper at her present state of mind to draw from her a recital of the terrible anguish of mind and body she has undergone, office it, that she was conscious while in her lowy prison-house of day and night; heard the lank winds as they moaned above her, her greatest fear be me lest her father had perished, but hope never once forsook her; she heard her rescuers thumping above and around her, but as too weak to apprise them of her whereabouts; and when found, had been using all her remaining strength in endeavoring to dig to the surface, and had succeeded in removing the snow several inches from her head upon which the person finding her providentially tripped.

Mrs. Weed is a most estimable lady and has been married but a few weeks. Her miraculous escape from death, and her present unhappy condition, have caused a most profound sympathy in her behalf.

AMUSEMENTS.

PITTSBURGH THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager.....WM. HENDERSON.

Last night but two of the talented actress,
MISS JULIA DALY,
Who will appear as CAPITOLA
Last night but two of the sequin comedian,
MR. SAM RYAN.

THIS EVENING, will be presented the celebrated five act sensation drama, entitled the
HIDDEN HAND.
Capitola, with song.....Miss Julia Daly.
Wipo!.....Mr. Sam Ryan.
Popular Overture.....Orchestra.
To conclude with the
MANIAC LOVER.
Matinee on Saturday Afternoon at 2 o'clock, at which will be presented the moral drama of WORKMEN OF THE WORLD. Admission, 25 cents to all parts of the house.

TRIMBLE'S VARIETIES THEATRE, PENN STREET, NEAR ST. CLAIR.
Lessee and Manager.....Tommy Newell.
Stage Director.....J. Dougherty.

THIS EVENING,

JENNIE ENGLE,
W. B. CAVANAGH,
DICK SANDS.

EVERETT LITERARY SOCIETY LECTURE.
REV. HENRY D. MOORE.
Subject—"OUR WHOLE COUNTRY—THE DANGERS AND DUTIES OF THE HOUR."

LAFAYETTE HALL, THURSDAY, March 1st, 7:45 P. M. Doors open at 7:45. Reserved seats 25c extra.
Tickets for sale at Davis, Clarke & Co.'s, corner Diamond alley and Wood street; J. T. Reed's, Fourth street; J. C. Materia's, corner Third and Smithfield streets, and by the members.
RESERVED SEATS will be sold on WEDNESDAY, February 28th at C. C. Mellor's, 81 Wood street, where a plan of the Hall can be seen. fe26-4t

BUILDING FUND
FAIR AND FESTIVAL
OF THE
Universalist Church,
AT CITY HALL, DIAMOND,
Commencing FEBRUARY 19th, and continuing nightly. A variety of singing, Tableaux, Living Statuary, and other interesting amusements have been provided for, closing with Promenade Concerts. A collection of articles will be on sale. Oysters and refreshments can be obtained in the Hall. Admission to the Hall, 25c; Concert Tickets, 50c. fe16-12t

BANKS AND BANKERS.

LAWRENCEVILLE SAVINGS BANK
Is now open at their Banking House, in LAWRENCEVILLE, on
BUTLER STREET,
Between Draw and Wainwright streets.
Interest paid on time deposits.
W. W. YOUNG, Cashier. S. M. KIER, Prest. fe1-4f

F. H. COUSSIN.....BENJ. COUSSIN.
BANKING HOUSE OF
F. H. COURSIN & CO.,
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STOCKS, LOANS, AND OTHER SECURITIES bought and sold on commission. COLLECTIONS made on all accessible points in the United States and Canadas.
Interest allowed on time Deposits.
UNITED STATES LOANS bought and sold at market rates. fe6-3m

J. B. ALEXANDER & CO., BANKERS,
NO. 27 WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK.
Government Securities, Gold and Stocks bought and sold exclusively on commission. Interest allowed on deposits subject to draft. dec4

SAMUEL WORK. KRAMER & BAIR. WM. GWINN
Pittsburgh.
BANKING HOUSE OF
WORK, McCOUCH & CO.,
No. 36 South Third Street,
PHILADELPHIA.
Dealers in BANK NOTES, COIN AND EXCHANGE. Stocks, Loans and other Securities bought and sold on commission. Collections made on all accessible points in the United States and Canada.
INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.
United States Loans bought and sold at market rates. au14-6m

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH, Pa. (late Pittsburgh Trust Company.) Capital $500,000, paid in, with privilege to increase to $1,000,000, and the same commenced. Passing on either side of the creek, feeling every drift, and such, and so, The Pittsburgh Trust Company having Organized under the laws of the United States, as a banking association, under the title of the FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH, would respectfully offer its services for the collection of Notes, Drafts, Bills of Exchange, &c., receive accounts of bankers, merchants, firms, and corporations of the country.
The success which has attended the Pittsburgh Trust Company since its organization in 1855, will, we believe, be a sufficient guarantee that business entrusted to the care of the National Bank will receive prompt attention.
Having a very extensive correspondence with Bankers and Bankers throughout the country, we believe we can offer unusual facilities to those who may favor us with us.
The business will be conducted by the same officers and Directors.

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JAMES LAUGHLIN, ALEX. SPEER,
ROBERT HAYS, FRANCIS BAILEY,
THOMAS BELL, JOHN H. RALSTON,
THOS. WIGHTMAN, JOHN WILSON.
WM. K. NIMICK,
JAMES LAUGHLIN, President.
JOHN D. ARNOLD, Cashier.
au7

ATTORNEYS.

J. ALVAN EUWER,
Attorney-at-Law,
107 FIFTH STREET,
First door below Cathedral, Pittsburgh, Pa.
ja30-1f

JOHN M. TIERNAN.....MALCOLM HAY.
TIERNAN & HAY,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Conveyancers, Dealers in Real Estate, Bonds and Mortgages, Stocks, Promissory Notes, &c.
Office, No. 81 FOURTH STREET, Pittsburgh, Pa. fe6-6m

PENSIONS, BOUNTY AND BACK PAY.
W. J. & HALL PATTERSON.
SOLICITORS OF SOLDIERS' CLAIMS.
NO. 144 FOURTH STREET, PITTSBURGH.
au18

IRA. E. HAMPTON.....W. G. MORELAND.
HAMPTON & MORELAND,
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law
NO. 92 DIAMOND STREET,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

SAMUEL HARPER,
(Late of the 138th Regiment,)
Has Resumed the Practice of Law,
In the office of S. M. smith,
NO. 92 DIAMOND STREET.
Special attention given to military and all other claims against the Government. Pensions procured. se5-1f

M. D. MACKELL. S. A. JOHNSON.
MACKELL & JOHNSON,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW AND U. S. LICENSED SOLDIERS' CLAIM AGENTS.
Bounties for wounded soldiers collected in from ten to twenty days.
Office, No. 84 Fourth Street,
PITTSBURGH, PA.
Call with discharge and two witnesses. 1f28

TEXAS LAW AND LAND AGENCY.
A. S. NORTON, Attorney, having offices at AUSTIN, TYLER and BRENHAM, with competent associates, will transact a general collection and agency business throughout Texas. Lands bought and sold, taxes paid; titles investigated, perfected and remitted. Those having claims of any description in any part of the State can address accordingly.
se2-1f

E. S. MORROW,
ALDERMAN AND CONVEYANCER,
No. 78 Penn's Avenue.

BREWERS.

H. DARLINGTON.....J. CARSON.....WILLIAM STEARNS
WHEELING BREWERY.
ALES, ALES, PORTER and BROWN STOUT.
We have on hand and are constantly brewing the different brands of the well-known Ales &c., of this old establishment, and now offer to the consumers of Pittsburgh, our X, XX, BITTER, KENNETT and CHAMPAGNE ALES, PORTER and BROWN STOUT. We shall have a full supply of STOCK ALES, and are now ready to fill orders.
H. DARLINGTON & CO.,
(Successors to George W. Smith.)
Malsters, Hop Dealers, and Brewers of Ales, Porter Brown Stout and Lager Beer,
WHEELING, W. V.

PHŒNIX STEAM BREWERY.
JAS. M'KAY
SPENCER & McKAY,
Malsters & Brewers
OF
ALE, PORTER, AND BROWN STOUT,
Pittsburgh, Pa.
ROBERT WATSON, Manager. au31-1y

JOHN GANGWISCH,
UNION LAGER BEER BREWERY,
WHOLESALE OFFICE
No. — PENN STREET, FIFTH WARD,
1730-1y PITTSBURGH, PA

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, No. 1 June T. 1866. Estate of Zachariah Bell.
February 3, 1866. Account of John Lindsey, Committee of the Estate of Zachariah Bell, filed and Court order public notice to be given that said account will be confirmed absolutely unless exceptions are filed on or before March 3, 1866.
BY THE COURT.
fe9-1d3

SARDINES— 6 cases halves and quarters;
WINE VINEGAR—3 puncheons imported Wine Vinegar, for sale by
MILLER & RICKETSON,
221 and 223 Liberty street.

FIRE CLAY.
20 barrels Missouri Fire Clay just received and for sale by
J. B. CANFIELD.

100 BBLS. NEW CORN MEAL in store and for sale by
COOK BROS. & CO.,
ja17 12 Smithfield alley

AMUSEMENTS.

OPERA HOUSE,
Lessee and Manager.....Miss ANNIE EISELE
Last night of the great Actress,
Re-engagement for a limited number of nights of the great actress,
MISS LAURA KEENE.
THURSDAY EVENING, March 1st, will be presented the new sensation drama of
LOST IN PITTSBURGH.
New scenery by Mr. Arthur Palmer. Interior of John McClain's Cottage—A Coal Mine—The Abode of Lizzy—Cottage on the Banks of the Allegheny—View of Pittsburgh by Moonlight—St. Clair Street Bridge.
Grand Matinee Saturday Afternoon, when will be presented the great sensation drama of LOST IN PITTSBURGH.

CITY BILL POSTER.
JAMES THACKERY.
19 Diamond, over Lippincott's Grocery Store.
Merchants and others wishing large or small show bills posted in conspicuous places in the city, Allegheny and Birmingham, will be promptly attended to by leaving their orders at the Commercial office. I am at present the only bill poster in the city, and have the exclusive use of the same. fe6-1y

DRY GOODS.

NEW DRY GOODS
AT
GARDNER & SCHLEITER'S,
92 Market Street.
One Case Yard Wide Prints, only 25 cts per yard.
4 Cases best makes Prints, light and dark, new styles, 33 and 23 cents.
Bleach Muslins 25 cents; yard wide, 31 cents.
5-4 and 10-4 muslins very cheap.
Table Linens, Sheeting Linens, Shirting Linens cheap.
Pants stuff, including all kinds of men and boys' wear, very low.
Dress Goods, Black Silks, Merinos, Alpacas, Mohairs, Plaids, new and cheap.
Balmoral Skirts from $2 00 to $6 00.
For NEW and CHEAP GOODS give us a call.
fe15
AT
JOS. HORNE & CO.'S,
SLIGHTLY SOILED GOODS.
GREAT BARGAINS IN
HANDKERCHIEFS,
COLLARS, SETS AND SLEEVES,
HOOP SKIRTS.
In addition to the above we are offering
POINT LACE GOODS,
And our entire stock of
EMBROIDERIES, TRIMMINGS,
WOOLEN GOODS, BALMORALS,
GLOVES, HOSIERY,
FURNISHING GOODS, &c.
AT VERY LOW PRICES.
Call at
77 & 79 MARKET STREET.
JOS. HORNE & CO.
fe3

SKATES.

SKATES. SKATES. SKATES,
2,500 PAIR
Ladies, Gents and Children's
SKATES
IN EVERY VARIETY,
For sale low by
JAMES BOWN,
no2-3m No. 136 Wood street.

SEWING MACHINES.

WHEELER & WILSON'S
LOCK STITCH
SEWING MACHINES
are universally acknowledged as the Cheapest, Simplest and Best, having been awarded the Gold Medal at the London and Paris Exhibitions,
All the Machines in the World Competing
WARRANTED FOR THREE YEARS,
SEND FOR A CIRCULAR TO
WM. SUMNER & CO.,
GENERAL AGENTS,
fe5 27 FIFTH STREET, Pittsburgh.

ERNEST AXTHELM, No. 103 THIRD street Pittsburgh. Agent for PLAYNER & HAYNES'
Noiseless Patent Sewing Machines.
These Sewing Machines are known as the very best in the United States. They are warranted, and sold at the Lowest Prices. Call and examine them before buying elsewhere. Repairing of Sewing Machines of every kind promptly attended to. se30-1y

PIANOS.

PIANOS, ORGANS, MELODEONS.
Hoffman, Hœne & Co.,
53 FIFTH STREET,
Are the sole agents for Decker Brothers, New York, and Adolph Hinze's, New York, Pianos, and also for Taylor & Farley's Organs and Melodeons.
THESE INSTRUMENTS ARE IN EVERY RESPECT THE MOST PERFECT IN THE COUNTRY.
PLEASE CALL AND EXAMINE.
se23

PIANOS AND ORGANS.
THE CELEBRATED
BRADBURY, New York, and
SCHOMACKER & CO., Philad's
PIANOS.
THE AMERICAN ORGAN and Estey & Co. COTTAGE ORGAN admitted by dealers and all who have heard them to be superior in tone to all other instruments of the kind manufactured in the United States.
Having made special arrangements with the best manufacturers in the country we are prepared to furnish, at the shortest notice, Brass and German Silver Band Instruments of every description for Brass and Cornet Bands, at reduced rates. Illustrated catalogue and price list furnished on application. New and second-hand Pianos for rent.
WAELDIN & SAGE,
No. 13 St. Clair st.

SAWYER'S
Pure Ambrosial Vegetable Compound
FOR SHAVING AND THE TOILET.
A Great American Discovery
No other Soap, foreign or domestic, has ever been offered, which meets the public wants as completely as this excellent Compound. Thus far its success is unparalleled, and it now bids fair to take precedence of all others in the market.
Sold by the Druggists, Confectioners and Grocers generally. A directory is given below of some of those who are engaged in selling this superior Soap, which will serve parties abroad and at home, who desire to order:
R. A. Fahnestock's Son & Co., Druggists, Pittsburgh.
R. L. Fahnestock & Co., do do
R. F. Sellers & Co., do do
Woodsides & Wallace, do do
Mackey & Bro., do do
George Bassett, do do
Miller & Dickeson, Grocers, do
Watt & Wilson, do do
Edward Heazlett, do do
John Lippincott, do do
Little Baird & Patton, do do
Love & Duff, do do
Schomaker & Lang, do do
Heymer & Brew, Confectioners & Fruiterers, do
George & Kelly, Druggist, Allegheny city.
Theran & Getty, Grocers, do
John A. Scott, do do
Semmits, Son & Co., do do
R. & A. Carson, do do
Lewis, Bailey, Baldwin & Co., Grocers, Sharpsburg.
Hopkock, (Benn & Co.'s) Grocers, New York.
Wm. Curtis, Odd Fellows' Hall, Philadelphia.
Hinman, Rose & Co., Commission Merchants, Chicago, Ill.
John Thompson & Co., Druggists, Bloomington, Ill.
D. Tidball & Co., Druggists, New Castle, Pa.
Wilcox & McKinley, do do
T. A. Humphrey, do do
J. M. Reno & Co., Grocers, Youngstown, Ohio.
Kidwell & son, Druggists, Washington City, D. C.
J. C. Acheson, Merchant Washington, Pa.
D. Dibert, Merchant, Johnstown, Pa.
P. A. & F. Small, Merchants, York, Pa.
Schaser & Frazer, Merchants, Harrisburg, Pa.
Nesbit & Lewis, Druggists, Indiana, Pa.
GEO. S. SOUTH. JOHN ROSS.
JOHN ROSS & CO.,
(Successors to Wm. N. Ogden & Co.,)
MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
CARBON OILS,
CARBON OIL LAMPS AND
FIXTURES, CHANDELIERS, &c.,
NO. 64 MARKET STREET,
Ja17 PITTSBURGH, PA.

50,000 LBS. NEW S. C. HAMS;
10 000 lbs new Shoulders;
10,000 lbs new Sides;
10,000 lbs new plain Hams;
100 new kegs new Lard;
50 new tierces new Lard;
100 sacks new Cornmeal;
20,000 lbs Peaches, quarters;
5,000 lbs Peaches, halves;
240 dozen 2 lb canned Peaches;
2,000 lbs peeled Peaches;
5,000 lbs Dried Apples;
Henry's, Ryders Paraffine Candles of all sizes;
100 lbs prime Cheese;
Fresh Roll Butter, Eggs, &c.,
In store and for sale at
COOK, BROS. & CO.'S,
fe9 13 Smithfield street.

FOR SALE--REAL ESTATE.

TEN THOUSAND ACRES OF
IRON AND COAL LANDS
FOR SALE.
Pursuant to a Deed of Trust to the undersigned Trustees, from Joseph Whitaker, George P. Whitaker, Joseph Condon, and their wives, dated January the 16th, 1864, and on Record in the Recorder's Office of Ohio county, West Virginia, Book 48, page 497, and also of record in the Recorder's Office of Wetzel county, Book 9, page 57, we will sell, on
WEDNESDAY, the 4th Day of April, 1866,
AT WHEELING, W. VA.
commencing at 11 o'clock, A. M., at Public Auction, at the front door of the COURT HOUSE, of Ohio county, 10,000 acres of Land, (more or less,) lying on the waters of Fish and Fishing Creek, in the said county of Wetzel, within the boundaries of four patents of 4,000 acres each, granted by the Commonwealth of Virginia, to Henry Wyskop and Paul Seiman, and dated the 25th day of February, 1786. For a more full description reference is made to the above mentioned deeds of trust.
The property will be sold in separate tracts and a plat of the land and its subdivisions may be examined at the office of Wm. P. Peterson, Esq., in the city of Wheeling.
Terms of Sale—Not less than one-third of the purchase money to be paid in cash on the day of sale, but the purchaser to have the right to pay more than one-third of the whole of the purchase money at his option.
The residue in three equal payments, from one to two years, with interest from the day of sale; and such deferred instalments to be secured by a deed of trust on the property sold to the satisfaction of the Trustees acting in the premises.
The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad passes through the northern portion of the tract, about forty miles distant from Wheeling. The land contains veins of Iron Ore of the best quality, contiguous to the Railroad. It also contains coal and is heavily timbered.
J. W. GILL,
L. D. HUBBARD,
NELSON K. WHITAKER
GEORGE W. WHITAKER,
CRISPIN OGLEBAY,
fe16-3tawid Trustees.

FOR LEASE OR SALE--WATER
POWER AND OIL LANDS.—The subscriber has one thousand and seventy five acres good oil lands fronting 2½ miles on the Cumberland river, in Wayne county, Ky. 16 miles below the head of navigation for steamboats, and just above and on the immediate vicinity of good paying oil wells, that he will lease on favorable terms to parties that will engage to commence developing them the present year.
The above lands have the advantage of very fine water power, and for good practical mechanics and millers, can be worked to pay handsomely. The subscriber will lease the whole of the water power for a long term of years or sell it. He will engage with a number of good mechanics and millers to operate in partnership.
A good barrel machine for manufacturing oil barrels, conducted by experienced workmen could be made very profitable. Timber for said barrels, cheap and abundant, and good market right at hand. The lumber business is very profitable, and timber plenty, and convenient to the power.
Planting grass or sowing cotton and wool can be done to pay handsomely. A good flour and corn mill, for custom and merchant work, would be a good profit, being in a fine grain region, and steamboat transportation for all surplus.
Any person wishing to engage in either of the above trades will please address the subscriber at Mill Spring, Wayne county, Ky., for particulars.
A. L. LANIER.
fe27-6t

FOR SALE—
Seventy-five Acres of Ground
Beautifully located for Suburban Residences, and
Suitable for Gardening Purposes,
SITUATED IN CHARTIERS TOWNSHIP.
Two miles from the city and contiguous to Nimick Station, Steubenville Railroad.
For terms apply to
N. P. SAWYER,
dec6 No. 27 Wood street.

TWO MILE HOUSE FOR SALE— Erected on a large lot of ground fronting Braddock street and extending back to an alley. The house is large and well adapted to do a large and paying business. Adjoining also is a frame dwelling of 4 rooms 2 stories. The lower room is well suited for a store. In the rear is also a 2 story frame house of 5 rooms. A large stable attached. Good yard. The above is well worthy the attention of capitalists, as the property can be made into very profitable. Apply on the premises.
fe26 B. McCLAIN & CO, 102 Fourth street.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION—FOR SALE, That desirable Property, known as the Avery Mansion, on Washington street, Fourth ward, Allegheny city. The Lot is about 200 feet deep, and the purchaser can have 50 or 100 feet in front if desired. Also adjoining the above, a number of beautiful Building Lots, one of which is a frame cottage of five rooms.
JOHN D. BAILEY,
fe24 Stock and Real Estate Broker, Wilkins Hall.

FOR SALE.
163 Acres of the cheapest Coal Land in Allegheny county.
A desirable Property on Fourth street.
Two elegant Residences in Allegheny city.
Farm of seventy-five (75) acres.
Dwellings in both cities.
JOHN D. BAILEY,
fe24 Stock and Real Estate Broker, Wilkins Hall, Fourth street.

SHARPSBURG IMPROVED PROPERTY FOR SALE. House of six rooms, hall and good cellar, with lot attached, 70 feet front on Main st. by 200 deep, on which there is an excellent well of water, an abundance of fruit of every description; stable and other out-houses; and will be sold on liberal terms. Apply to JOHN H. MILLER, Real Estate Agent, at the Real Estate and Insurance office of
fe24 Butler st, near Allen, Lawrenceville.

FOR SALE.
A TWO STORY FRAME HOUSE AND LOT, Beautifully located at Rochester, Beaver county, Pa., within five minutes' walk of the Railroad, containing four rooms and a kitchen, with a cellar. The house is a size collection of fruit on the premises, the house has been newly painted, and in good repair. For further information inquire on the premises or by letter to
fe24 W. M. & R. A. PATTON, R. R.

HOUSE AND LOT FOR SALE IN ALLEGHENY, No. 35 Voegtly street, near to Larock street. The dwelling is built in modern style, and contains seven rooms, hall, cellar, front and kitchen and four sleeping apartments; wash house and privies in rear. Also, a large two story frame house in kitchen; hydrant water in the yard. Lot well filled with grape, fruit trees and shrubbery. Possession April 1st. Price $4,200.
B. McCLAIN & CO.
fe9 102 Fourth street.

FOR SALE—
A LARGE AND DESIRABLE LOT,
on Bagaley's Lane, Second ward, Allegheny city, 67 feet front by 325 feet in depth, to Allegheny avenue, having double front. Possession 1st of April next. Inquire of T. R. HAMILTON & CO., or of fe16-2w* WM. WHERLE, on the premises.

FARM FOR SALE.
Mr. John Johnson offers for sale a splendid FARM of 23 acres, situate in the Shoe Factory township, Lawrence county, Pa., within one-half mile of Enon station, and 3 miles north of Beaver. It has two story brick house, good well water at the door; wood and coal handy; convenient to the Erie Railroad; is in good state of cultivation; and all necessary out-buildings. Any person wishing to purchase a farm will do well to call at 83 Diamond Jewelry store, 49 Fifth street. fe21-2w

HOUSE FOR SALE.
TWO STORY BRICK HOUSE,
No. 226 North Avenue, Allegheny city, within ten minutes walk from Pittsburgh. Inquire of
J. LUDEWIG KOETHEN,
fe10-1f Bakewell's Building 71 Grant st.

VALUABLE COAL LAND FOR SALE, belonging to the heirs of the late John Wesley Hall, deceased, located in Elizabeth township, near Butler's station, on the Youghiogeny river, and containing about 200 acres of very valuable coal. It is easy of access by boat at all seasons of the year, and is within 20 miles of the Pittsburgh, Columbus Railroad, and about the same distance from the Hempfield railroad. The above property will be offered at Public Sale at 10 o'clock on THURSDAY, March 1st, 1866. Terms will be made known on day of sale. For further particulars apply to
JOHN STERNER,
fe7-6td-3tw See Kirby Station.

FOR SALE—
A large and elegant brick dwelling, containing 9 rooms, with finished attic, basement and bath room. The lot is 92 feet front by 165 feet back; on which are also a brick stable and carriage house, shade and fruit trees, shrubbery, &c. Inquire at 139 Centre avenue, or address L., lock-box No. 99, Pittsburgh P. O.
ja30-1m

ISLAND RUN OIL TERRITORY FOR SALE.
Lands at the justly celebrated Island Run and Little Beaver Creek for sale, where as yet every well has proved a success. Also, interests in wells now producing, or in process of boring. Address
CHARLES M. HURST,
ja30-3m Rochester, Pa.

FOR SALE.
A VALUABLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE,
At Edgewood Station, Pennsylvania Railroad, one-half mile from Wilkinsburg 11 acres, 126 perches of land, a fine new dwelling, containing ten rooms and cellars underneath. Fruit and other conveniences on the premises. For further information call at No. 106 Fifth street, Pittsburgh, or on the premises.
ja13-1f J. S. KING

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE. The undersigned offers for sale a tract of land, situated in North Beaver township, Lawrence county, Penn'a, containing 118 acres, and for its very best state of cultivation: It is three miles from New Castle, one mile from Mahoningtown, at the junction of the Mahoning Valley and Pittsburgh and Erie Railroad. The farm is well watered. There are two dwelling houses on the premises, a good bank barn, and other out houses, all in good repair. Terms easy. For further particulars apply to JAMES P. McCLATCHERY, on the premises, Crescent Postoffice. fe15-1m

OIL TERRITORY FOR DISPOSAL.
About six thousand acres of the best OIL TERRITORY in Tennessee, within one mile of a railroad, will be sold on favorable terms.
For further information address
E. SNYDER,
Louisville and Nashville Railroad,
fe21-10t Louisville, Ky.

FOR SALE.—Two Desirable Country residences situate at Turtle's Station, on the Pennsylvania railroad, near East Liberty. The lot contains five acres on which there is a choice variety of fruit, and a never failing spring of pure water. The houses are brick—one containing twelve rooms, and finished in the latest style with all the modern improvements. The other contains seven rooms. The lot can be divided, if desired, to each house 2½ acres. There is also a good Carriage House, Stable and Washing House attached to each house, and a never failing spring of pure soft water. Inquire of
fe16-2w FINLEY TORRENS, No. 66 Third St.

FIRST WARD, ALLEGHENY.— Two Building Lots in St. Clair, Denny's Plan, are offered for sale. They are situated on Sherman street, and command a beautiful view. Also two lots fronting on South avenue, in the same plan. Moses Kirkpatrick, Esq., and Mr. Sherman will show the lots and give particulars to those desiring to purchase. Apply to JAMES A. McKEAN at office of
fe1-1f 145 Fourth street.

OIL LANDS FOR SALE.
Several valuable tracts of OIL TERRITORY, bordering on the Kanawha river, West Virginia, are offered for sale by the undersigned. For information deeds, plans, &c., apply to me at No. 98 Grant street, Pittsburgh, Pa.
WM. M. MOFFETT,
ja26-3tawlhw Attorney at Law.

FOR SALE.
A three story BRICK HOUSE, of nine rooms, situated near corner of Chestnut and North Canal street, North ward, Allegheny city. Also, Brick House of six rooms, situated No. 291 Shannapin street, or No. 6 Common, Allegheny city. Inquire of
NELSON & EDMONDSON,
dec12-tf Attorneys at-Law, 114 Fifth street.

FOR SALE—
5 Lots on Pennsylvania Avenue
Inquire at
FORT PITT GLASS WORKS,
no11-tf Washington street.

GROCERIES.
200 bbls choice Extra Family Flour;
300 bbls choice Peachblow Potatoes;
50 kegs Lard, No. 1;
500 lbs Goose Feathers;
50 bbls Dried Apples;
50 bbls Sorghum;
In store and for sale at
MEEK & ARMSTRONG'S,
fe22-6t No. 97 First street.

ROSIN AND TAR.
500 bbls North Carolina Rosin for Brewers and Soap makers' use.
500 bbls North Carolina Tar, for sale by
W. S. BATCHELDER,
ja9 19 Irwin street.

EGGS.—7 BBLS. FRESH EGGS, for sale by
GEORGE S. JONES & CO
fe9 161 Wood street.

WATCHES, JEWELRY, &C.

W. H. HENNZEN.....J. T. SCOTT.
SPRING TRADE, 1866.
SCOTT & HENNEGEN,
IMPORTERS AND WHOLESALE JOBBERS IN
WATCHES, CLOCKS AND JEWELRY,
WATCH AND CLOCK MATERIALS,
Tools and Glasses.
Silver Plated Ware, Fancy Goods, &c.
No. 31 FIFTH ST., (3d story), Pittsburgh, Pa.
And No. 127 MAIN ST., Wheeling, W. Va.
We have just received a new and large stock of the above Goods, to which we invite the attention of dealers and the trade. fe23-3m

CARPETS.

CARPETS.
WE ARE NOW RECEIVING A large assortment of SPRING GOODS in all the latest and most desirable patterns of
VELVETS, ENGLISH AND AMERICAN BODY,
BRUSSELS,
TAPESTRY,
5 PLY AND 2 PLY CARPETS.
A CHOICE STOCK OF THOROUGHLY SEASONED OIL CLOTHS, FROM 3 FEET TO 24 FEET 12 WIDE,
WINDOW SHADES, HOLLANDS, &c.
fe16-Stawid

CARPETS.
SPRING TRADE, '66.
OLIVER McCLINTOCK & CO.,
Offer a most complete assortment of
CARPETS,
Especially
English Tapestry & Body Brussels,
IMPORTED BY OURSELVES
In a greater quantity, and embraces a finer variety of styles, than ever before brought to this market, including most elegant
PARLOR STYLES,
RICH LIBRARY STYLES,
NEAT BED-ROOM STYLES,
And Small Figures for Halls, with Stair to match. The choicest of the New Patterns and the best of the Old.

UPHOLSTERY.
Having an experienced and skillful Upholsterer, we engage to make and put down Carpets and Oil Cloths, and Hang Window Shades, either in the city or suburbs. fe14

CARPETS,
Lace and Damask Curtains,
We are now receiving our SPRING STOCK, including choice lines of
ENGLISH CARPETS,
Of our own importation, and comprising the most extensive and complete assortment of every description of goods in our line that we have ever had the pleasure of offering to our customers.
Our purchases having been made with Gold at lowest rates, we are enabled to offer the best styles in the market at a
Reduction of from 10 to 25c per Yard
from prices of last season.
We warrant all goods we sell to be as represented. In case they are not, we pay full validity our customers that such is the fact, the goods will be taken back, the money refunded and all expenses paid.
**M'FARL

The Daily Commercial

CITY MATTERS.

Allegheny County Agricultural Society.

A regular monthly meeting of the Allegheny County Agricultural Society was held yesterday morning at their rooms on Fifth street. The attendance was large and the proceedings equally interesting.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Bissell presented to the Society a quantity of seed wheat, of new varieties, which was accepted and handed to Mr. John McKelvy for trial.

General James S. Negley, then read the following essay on the Cultivation of Orchards:

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ROOMS, } February 28, 1866. }

Moses Chew, Esq., Chairman:

SIR: A highly respected and intelligent member stated, at a former meeting, that his orchard was the more fruitful when kept in grass. This opinion was sustained by the experience of another member, who added, however, the information that he had mulched heavily with manure. Differing so widely from well established principles in horticulture, these instances invite an essay on the subject, which is, I think, an important one to our community.

The mineralogical properties of the soil with other favorable conditions, may have given the results referred to—without presenting a single reason for the acceptance of this method, in general practice. The cultivator is already too willing to attribute his failures to causes other than neglect, or lack of experience, and also content to derive his lessons from the cheapest examples of labor. It would be simply necessary for this Society to adopt the conditions named as a guide for the treatment of fruit trees, to encourage still greater inattention to the fruit garden.

The soil is the important medium through which the higher orders of vegetable life derives nourishment, the leaves and stem play the part of lungs, absorbing essential properties from the atmosphere. Yet these functions cease when the roots are severed. This fact conceded so far as it applies to the fruit tree, determines the necessity of suitable preparation of the soil before planting, and maintaining its most favorable condition thereafter.

The roots of a healthy tree form a network of eager couriers in search of food, which is absorbed through the delicate spongioles on the extremities. These conductors possess no power of discrimination, but will drink up the most injurious substances.

Anesthetic agents and poisons act on plants, producing similar effects to that on animals, thus exhibiting a most sensitive organization.

The air acting on the surface of the soil produces continued evaporation of moisture, which in turn becomes filled with moisture from below. The rapidity and effectiveness of this circulation depends entirely upon the permeable condition of the earth. The water, while ascending, holds in solution, lime, phosphates, potash, silicates, carbonates, &c., which remain when the former is evaporated. The rain falling on the loose soil, sinks through it, becomes imbued with carbonic acid from the decomposition of vegetable matter, thereby acquiring the new property of dissolving the mineral salts into a solution, fitted for the delicate organization of the growing plant. The effects of this chemical change are the more rapid and easily observed when the drainage is perfect, and the soil frequently pulverized, at the same time the temperature of the earth is increased from 0 to 20 degrees, an important consideration early in the season, or when the fruit is maturing.

When the ground is in proper condition, the numerous surface roots enjoy the vivifying influences of the sun and air, both absolutely necessary for the perfect development of fruit-bearing wood. This result cannot be attained while the soil is impoverished with secondary crops, or the roots of the tree cut off and injured by deep digging.

Presuming that the ground has been suitably prepared when the tree was planted, the surface kept clean and loose until the fruit buds commence maturing, then the ground should be mulched lightly and left alone. The mulching gradually decomposes, furnishing a fresh supply of food, assisting in the completion of the season's growth. The injury induced by cold and retentive soils, or encouraging the roots to penetrate the subsoil, will be appreciated by the cultivator when he understands that when decomposition takes place under these conditions it is found to be impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen, which is highly pernicious to the tree.

Eminent horticulturists have after a ripe experience urged the necessity of good drainage, ameliorating the texture of the soil by subsoiling. Unless these rules are observed, disappointment will blight the fairest hope of the owner.

The art of acquiring knowledge in horticulture, and enjoying pleasure in the pursuit, depends upon our intimacy with the principles of existence of the organic laws. We have only to study the forces of nature at work to comprehend the simplicity, yet grandeur of the elements combined to gladden our journey with bright flowers, luscious fruits and inviting shades.

The chemical agents of beatitude and resistless power, dissolve the flinty quarts, volatilises the brilliant crystal, and seizes the fleeting gases to form emblems of perfection and jewels for the diadems of the saints.

In this laboratory of combination and dissolution, there exists the most complete harmony of operation, you hear no clank of the hammer, while the oxide of iron is being forged into the fibres of the tree. No blast of furnace is exciting the fulsgar into clay. There is no revibration of the rock in powder, nor the pressure of granite into dust. The step of time on the calcareous rock are scarcely observed until hidden by the velvet moss, or blossoms with the rosy beauty of the *sedum*. There is no torture in this war of elements, all tranquil, wonderful, stupendous, faithfully contributing to the economy of vegetable and animal existence.

JAS. S. NEGLEY.

The thanks of the Society was then tendered to General Negley for his able essay.

Mr. Murdoch stated that the Managers of the *State Agricultural Society* had invited a delegate from this Society to attend the next fair in Pittsburgh, and moved that a Committee be appointed to confer with a similar committee from the State Society on the subject. The motion was adopted, and Messrs. Bissell, Chess and Jennings appointed said committee.

It was announced that the Committee on Premiums will report on the 1st of March, to arrange a list for the next annual Fair.

An interesting discussion was held on agricultural subjects, after which the meeting adjourned until the last Wednesday in March.

The following is a list of the Officers, Board of Managers and Standing Committees for the ensuing year:

OFFICERS.

President—Hon. John E. Parke.
Vice President—John Murdoch, Jr.
Recording Secretary—George M. Reed.
Corresponding Secretary—General James S. Negley.
Treasurer—James Reed.
Librarian—George M. Reed.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.—John McKelvy, Wilkinsburg P. O.; John Hodgson, Temperanceville; John Young, Jr., Ewing's Mills; Moses Chess, Temperanceville; Robert Beinel, Wilkinsburg; Randall Morrison, Pittsburgh; Jarod M. Brush, Pittsburgh; George Hastings, Clinton, Pa.; W. S. Haven, Pittsburgh; Wm. Oliver, Port Perry; George G. Negley, East Liberty; Wm. Negley, Pittsburgh; Wm. Thaw, Pittsburgh; James Verner, Pittsburgh; John F. Jennings, Pittsburgh; Wm. H. Guy, Beers P. O.

STANDING COMMITTEES.—Claims and Accounts—Parke, Young, Murdoch, Verner, Finance—Negley, M'Kelvy, Guy, Thaw, Agriculture—Young, Oliver, M'Kelvy, Guy. Horticulture—J. S. Negley, Murdoch, G. G. Negley, Bennett. Mechanics—Parke, Hastings, Brush, Hill, Fine Arts—J. Reed, J. S. Negley, Jennings, Morton. Printing—George M. Reed, Haven, Parke, Brush. Library—Young, G. Negley, J. Reed, Brush, Burns. Fair Grounds—M'Kelvy, Hodgson, Negley, Morrison. Premiums—Negley, J. Reed, Hill, Arrangements—Murdoch, Young, J. S. Negley, Parke. Premium List—Young, M'Kelvy, G. G. Negley, George M. Reed, Burns, Haven, Morton, J. Reed, Bennett. Disputed Premiums—Hodgson, Negley, Oliver, Guy. Discretionary Premiums—Oliver, Haven, Murdoch, George M. Reed.

Dirty Streets Again.

Pittsburgh has been visited by several bright balmy days of late, indicative of returning animation in Nature. But these comparatively warm days bring with them heavy night fogs and perpetual mud, both of which are extremely deleterious to human health. The condition of the streets of Pittsburgh proves a pitiable commentary upon the energy of the authorities whose duty it is to see that they are kept free from filth of all kinds. Indeed, with an exception or two, the thoroughfares are in as bad a state as at any time during the past winter. The brighter atmosphere of Spring has come, but the season will be made miserable to the city folks if the streets are allowed to remain dirty. Their narrow alleys, filled and crowded at all hours by both sexes, and it would be an infliction not to be tolerated that everybody should be compelled to wallow knee deep in the mud that accumulates in them. We have seen the crowd and joined it when the day was as dark as to give one an idea of London in winter. We have watched them splashed by the hurrying vehicles, and nothing short of wagons and carts in frantic endeavor to clear the depths of filth that lay between the sidewalks. It is bad enough to be compelled to wade through the night fogs which come at this season of the year, looking in at your windows, smothering your breathing apparatus and chilling your heart. Fogs give healthy people colds in their heads, bronchitis and neuralgia, and make everybody low spirited and miserable. But there is no excuse for the mud. It can be done away with, and ought to be done. The trifling expense is not worth consideration. The health of the whole city depends upon its sanitary condition, and it must be attended to. Every one of filthy streets and alleys are sure to breed disease in many and various forms. The cholera is expected to put in an appearance in this country next summer. Many cities have made preparations for guarding against the fatal ravages, and others are moving in the same direction. Why should Pittsburgh be behind all the rest when as we know that there is no expense enough here to accomplish anything not morally impossible. If the cholera is to be kept from our doors instant action should be taken towards placing the city upon a sound sanitary basis. Everything that the necessities of the case may require must be done promptly, and among the most important reforms brought about in this way will be clean streets—a blessing by itself.

REV. HENRY D. MOORE'S LECTURE.—To-night the Rev. Henry, D. Moore, pastor of the Fifth Mouth Congregational Church in Pittsburgh, will deliver a lecture at Lafayette Hall, under the auspices of the Everett Literary Society, for the benefit of the building fund. The subject will be "Our Whole Country—The dangers and duties of." Mr. Moore is one of the most talented divines that this section of Pennsylvania can boast of, and is highly popular with the people. He has also distinguished on the record as an uncompromising friend of free institutions, and will doubtless discuss to-night a subject of our present duties as citizens of the great republic with consummate ability.

PITTSBURGH CHORAL UNION.—We are in receipt of a note from the Rev. J. S. Travelli, of the Freedmen's Aid Commission, setting forth that the proceeds of the late concert by the Choral Union for the benefit of the freedmen, amounted to $965 65, which sum was paid over to Allen Kramer, Esq., the treasurer of the Aid Commission. The Freedmen's Commission return their thanks to Messrs. Alexander and Giles, the leaders, and the ladies and gentlemen of the Choral Union for their kindness in the premises.

VALUABLE MINERAL LANDS FOR SALE.—We invite attention to an advertisement offering for sale a large and valuable real estate, situate in adjoining counties on the waters of the Allegheny river. The rapid development of that section of the country in mineral wealth, and the many public improvements now in process of building, constitute real estate in that region a safe and sure investment. The site for iron works at the Buffalo creek, and on the line of the Western Pennsylvania Railroad, we are informed by Mr. Johnston, is all that is represented, and we know of none more competent to decide.

CARD OF THANKS.—Rev. Dr. Clark publishes the following acknowledgment to his congregation: "It is my pleasure, as pastor of the Second United Presbyterian congregation of Allegheny City, to express my gratitude for the many tokens of favor and good will bestowed upon me, their unworthy servant. First, The Bible class was pleased to donate a beautiful silver castors and much valued 'study chair.' Second, A number of my members paid us a visit, and left behind, as a token of their Christian sympetsy, six hundred dollars in greenbacks. Third. The congregation has raised my salary to twenty-five hundred dollars. The Lord richly bless and reward all.

JOHN B. CLARK."

Habeas Corpus Case.

An interesting *habeas corpus* case was heard before Judge Stowe yesterday. The proceedings were under a writ awarded at the instance of Arthur Gallagher against Thomas and Rachel Hutchinson. The petitioner was formerly the husband of Mrs. Hutchinson, who is the mother of two children, aged respectively three and five years. On the 26th of September last Mrs. Gallagher was divorced from her husband, and subsequently married Thomas Hutchinson, the co-respondent in this case. The children remained in the custody of their mother, after her divorce, and since her second marriage they have still remained under her charge, and that of her present husband. Gallagher, being desirous of obtaining the custody of the children, instituted these proceedings. The testimony was clear that he was not a fit person to take charge of the children, by reason of dissipation, and the case was submitted to the court without argument. Judge Stowe ordered the children to remain in the custody of their mother. When the decision was rendered, Mrs. Hutchinson was overcome with joy, and fell fainting into the arms of her counsel, Gen. Pearson.

Watch Presentation.

Last evening an elegant watch was presented to Mr. David Miller, late foreman of Messrs. Fleming & Torrens' tin ware establishment, on Third street. The ceremony took place at Mr. Miller's residence on Isabella street, Allegheny city, in the presence of a large number of the male and female employees of the establishment. In presentation speech was made by Mr. William Lloyd, who referred in fitting terms to the uniform kindness and courtesy exhibited by Mr. Miller in his intercourse with his late fellow-workmen. The gift was received by the recipient in a few brief, though neat remarks. The costly then purchase of some refreshments, when the "Excelsior Quartette" sang a number of songs in a highly artistic manner. Mr. Miller is a son-in-law of Messrs. Fleming & Torrens' establishment for the past sixteen years, resigned his position in order to embark in the same business, and he may rely upon having the best wishes of his late associates for his future success.

THE FRAME BUILDING LAW IN ALLEGHENY.—At a meeting on Thursday evening last of the Councils of Allegheny City, it was resolved that the question of repealing the frame building ordinance be submitted to a vote of the people. Mayor Morrison, in pursuance thereof, has issued his proclamation, calling a special election, to be held on the second Tuesday (13th) of March, at the usual places, and by the regular election officers. The subject of repealing the present law against wooden buildings has been before the Council for some months past, and they finally concluded to let the people decide the matter. The subject is of great importance to the citizens of our sister city, and that they should avail themselves of every property holder will cast his vote for or against the repeal of the present law.

—THE LAND SLIDE ON THE P. & C. R. R.—Workmen have been engaged daily in removing the obstructions on the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad, caused by the immense land slide which occurred on Monday near the railing mills of Messrs. Evernson, Preston & Co., in the Eighth ward. The workmen have succeeded in removing the obstructions in a shorter time than was anticipated, and it is expected that by to-day the trains will run through in their regular order.

BATCH OF BILLS.—We are indebted to Col. J. P. Glass for a batch of local bills now before the Legislature.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY, February 28—P. M.

It is now conceded by writers who were a short time ago alarmists, that the financial policy of the Government will lead to greater monetary ease instead of stringency, and there need be no fears of currency contraction, or a sudden letting down to resumption. The supply of currency at the great centres is not by any means so abundant as many suppose—not sufficient to make a cheap money market. The National currency has reached its maximum, and the weekly reports now only exhibit the substitution of National for State bank issues. The compound notes that were used as circulating money when first issued, have lost their currency function by the accumulation of interest. There has thus been put out of circulation about one hundred and eighty millions, and the practice of the Secretary of the Treasury is throwing on the market a few millions of gold every now and then, is generally condemned as injudicious, and calculated to disturb the business interests of the country.

—Commercial merchants whiting for the spring trade are purchasing very sparingly. They are very timid. Their old stocks have become very light, and the impression is that an active market will soon be brought about by the force of circumstances.

—The last New York bank statement shows some important changes. The legal tenders have decreased $6,139,256; but nearly two millions of this decrease, it is said, is owing to an error of the statement last week—the real decrease being $3,200,254—which is attributable to payments into the Sub-Treasury on account of Government gold sales, and under the influence of which the balance in the hands of the Government on Monday has risen to $189,814,793. The deposits show a decrease of $6,535,586, which is attributable to the same cause, the balance in the Sub-Treasury having increased $11,320,407 since last Monday. The loans have decreased $3,220,052, showing a contraction of loans and discounts as a precautionary measure. The specie, as stated in our last, has increased, owing to the Sub-Treasury sales, which are represented by certificates of coin deposit, counted as gold by the banks.

—A good deal of uneasiness was caused in Cincinnati yesterday by the return from Washington of a considerable amount of 10-40 coupons, which were pronounced by Mr. Spinner as (probably) counterfeits. The difference between the genuine and alleged counterfeits was pointed out, and upon investigation it was found that a large proportion of the bonds in the hands of bankers there corresponded with the description given of the counterfeits issued. These inquiries, however, led to the discovery of bonds in the hands of original purchasers, which, on being directly from the Treasury, which corresponded exactly with those described as counterfeits. The conclusion, therefore, was, the counterfeit scare resulted from a mistake. Two plates were doubtless used in printing the bonds originally, and the printing left the slight difference detected at Washington. The bonds were of the denomination of $500.

—The following shows the business of the Philadelphia Clearing House for the week preceding Monday, February 26, 1866:

	Clearings.	Balances.
February 19	$6,414,408 90	$462,787 90
" 20	5,345,766 60	290,357 17
" 21	5,848,188 74	363,090 05
" 22	6,096,522 91	446,195 15
" 24	6,811,757 11	528,417 62
	$31,429,236 72	$2,092,847 80

The statement for the week is rather more favorable than that of the preceding one. The legal tenders show an augmentation of $506,730; last week they presented a decrease from the week previous of $75,562. The specie, which is the last statement exhibited a falling off of $12,408, now shows an increase of $77,000. The loans show a further diminution of $115,745; last week they had decreased $268,000. The deposits show a further falling off of $674,290, while in the last statement they showed a decrease of $827,223. The circulation this week shows a diminution of $110,922; last week there was an increase of $22,000 reported.

—No new organizations have been made under the national banking system during the past week. The whole number now stands at 1,630, with an aggregate capital of $407,559,202. The amount of circulation issued to the above banks during the week reaches $1,776,785. Previously issued, $264,627,277. Total, $267,072,910. The following banks have been designated as additional depositories of the public money: First National Bank, Charleston, Ill.; First National Bank, Marshall, Mo.; National Bank of Newbern, N. C.

—About thirty thousand dollars of the notes of the First National Bank of Attica, N. Y., which failed some time since, are still afloat. In issues amounted to $45,000, of which $15,000 have been redeemed by the Treasury Department at Washington.

—The following table shows the clearings and balances at the Chicago Clearing House for the week ending February 24th:

	Clearings.	Balances.
February 19	$4,626,492 31	$171,111 57
" 20	750,299 56	117,282 94
" 21	923,169 01	149,914 88
" 22	1,085,636 52	153,291 78
" 23	1,154,980 05	110,491 31
Totals	$4,942,585 27	$686,487 88
Last week	5,148,033 59	844,501 99

PITTSBURGH GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, March 1, 1866.

Business as yet has exhibited but little improvement, the demand being for parcels to supply the immediate wants of consumers. Prices generally have undergone no change. The rates that were current previously would answer on the present occasion. The weather was pleasant. Our rivers are in fine navigable order to all points. Trade in the Allegheny was active; six passenger steamers left for the Oil Regions, besides four boats. A fair sized fleet of boats is now engaged in navigating that stream. Heavy oil receipts are expected during the week. On the Monongahela landing business was not so active; freights were scarce, particularly to communities and towns adjacent to St. Louis, with a fair trip. The Nora leaves to-day for Cincinnati. The Lexington leaves to-day for Parkersburg, in place of the Leoti, which will be withdrawn for the present. The Emma No. 3 will commence receiving this day, and will leave for St. Louis on Saturday. Captain W. H. Kerr has chartered the Delaware for the Portsmouth trade; she will leave next week. The sales that came under our notice were:

APPLES—The market contains a fair supply with a moderate demand. Sales of 80 bbls at $7 00@7 50 ₱ bbl.

BACON—Supply ample to meet the demand. Prices unchanged. Sales of 150 bbls at $2 00@2 65 from first hands. Sales from store at full advance.

HAY—Was in better demand. The sales were 45 bales on the wharf at $19 ₱ ton, and 20 loads at the scales at $16 00@17 00 ₱ ton.

GRAIN—The demand for certain descriptions was limited. Wheat—May be put down as nominal at $1 80@1 90 for good to prime. Corn—Sales of 1,000 bu from store at 66c; sales of 700 bu on track at 46@47c. Corn—Not much fancied; sales in a regular way at 80@85c. Barley—Further sales of 300 bu at 50@60c. Rye—Fall, 85@90c. Rye—Sales of 500 bu Pennsylvania at 74c.

MESS PORK—Dull, with sales of 5 bbls at $29 00 ₱ bbl. The supply exceeds the demand.

LARD—Sales of 10 bbls leaf at 18½c; sales of 10 do country at 17c.

BULK OILS—The market was steady but not very active. Sales of 35 bbls No. 1 at $1 85 ₱ gallon. No demand for 2s.

GRAIN—The demand for certain descriptions was limited. Wheat—May be put down as nominal at $1 80@1 90 for good to prime. Corn—Sales of 1,000 bu from store at 46c; sales of 700 bu on track at 46@47c. Corn—Not much fancied; sales in a regular way at 80@85c. Barley—Further sales of 300 bu at 50@60c. Rye—Fall, 85@90c. Rye—Sales of 500 bu Pennsylvania at 74c.

MESS PORK—Dull, with sales of 5 bbls at $29 00 ₱ bbl. The supply exceeds the demand.

LARD—Sales of 10 bbls leaf at 18½c; sales of 10 do country at 17c.

BULK OILS—The market was steady but not very active. Sales of 35 bbls No. 1 at $1 85 ₱ gallon. No demand for 2s.

FLOUR—There was a larger demand for this article. Sales, however, were not large, the country people keep pace with the demand. Among the sales were 200 bbls Ohio at $10 00@10 50; 100 bbls Ohio family, $11 00@11 50; Extra family, Winter Wheat—100 bbls Ohio at $10 00@10 50; 150 do at $10 25@10 50; 100 do, Brooks' Select at $11 00@11 50. Spring Wheat Flour—Sales 120 bbls at $8 25@8 50 ₱ bbl.

TALLOW—In fair demand. Sales with sales at 12½c ₱ lb.

BUTTER—Sold at a variety of prices, ranging from 27 3/4@33 00 ₱ dozen.

CHEESE—The market continues steady, with a good local demand. Prices, however, have undergone no change. The sales were 8, C. Eighty-eights at 15½c; 30 do at 22½c. Shoulders—3,000 lbs at 14½@15c. Sides—2,000 lbs ribbed at 17½c; clear held at 18½c.

BUTTER—Dull. Prices tend downward. The supply is not large. The receipts are on the increase. Sales 19 pkgs at 25@28c.

CHEESE—Was in good demand. Sales 60 bxs Goshen at 22c.

EGGS—The supply is on the increase. We note sales 8 bbls at 23c.

POTATOES—Were in good demand. We note sales 150 bush from store at $1 10@1 15, and 150 bbls at depot at $3 60 ₱ bbl.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, March 1, 1866.

The oil trade appears to have suspended operations for the present, at least. Dealers yesterday paid but little attention to oil masters, at least. Sales were not obtainable on the Allegheny wharf. Shipments of empty oil barrels and produce to the oil regions were carried on with considerable activity. The following passenger boats took their departure, viz: Greenback, Petrolia, LeClair No. 2, and Ida Rees No. 2, besides towboats too numerous to mention. Before the close of the week oil will begin to make its appearance on the landing. Until that event takes place transactions in crude will be on a limited scale. The rates at Oil City yesterday were $5 ₱ bbl, and dull, in our market we heard of but one transaction in crude at 18c, without packages. That seems to be the ruling price. This would be equal to 22c, including packages.

REFINED OIL—Was very dull; we did not hear of a single transaction. The nominal rates for bonded, on the spot, were 37@38c. Free oil very dull.

TAR—Market quiet at $4 25@4 50, free on board cars

Oil Receipts per Allegheny Valley R. R.

GOING EAST.

Hermann, Koehler & Co., 27 barrels tar, for New York.
S. McMahon & Co, 50 barrels refined, for Baltimore.

Pittsburgh.

Incesce Oil Company, 50 barrels refined.
Forsyth, Brother & Co, 42 barrels refined.
Lockhart & Frew, 11 barrels refined.

Cincinnati Iron and Steel Market.

February 27.—Iron and Steel.—There is a fair demand for pig iron, with sales of about 300 tons during the week, mostly of hot blast. There is no change in prices. We quote:

Pig Iron—No. 1 hot blast (foundry), $33 00@36 00 ₱ ton; No. 2 (mill iron), $30 00@32 00; cold blast, $40 00@45 00 ₱ ton. Manufactured—flat, round and square bar, bolted, 7½ to 6c charcoal, 7c ₱ lb; short rolls, No. 10 to 27, bolted, 7¾@8½c; charcoal, 10½@11½c. Horse shoes—$6 25@6 75 ₱ keg. Mule shoes—$7 25@8 75 ₱ keg. Steel—American spring, 14½c; American blister 13½c; imported tool steel, 24c ₱ lb.

Nails—The most desirable sizes are scarce, but prices are unchanged. We quote:

10d to 6d, $7 50 ₱ keg; 8d to 3d, 7 75; 6d to 7d, 8 00; 3d to 4d, 8 25; 2d, 8 75; 3d, fine, 9 75; spikes, 7 75; casing nails, 9 @9 50; finishing nails $ 50@9 00; barrel nails, 2 2@10 25; tobacco nails, 7 75@8 00.

Cincinnati Provision Market.

February 27.—Lard was firm but not active. Sales were made at 18¼@18¾ cents for prime country and city.

Bulk shoulders are neglected. They can be bought at 11½c loose. Rib sides are held at 15½@16c. Clear rib 14¾@15c, and clear, 15¾c, loose; but these rates are above the views of buyers.

Bacon was ob'ained at 14c packed, though in the jobbing way sales are being made at 14c to 14c higher. Rib sides are quoted at 16½c, and clear rib, 17½c. Clear Sides sold to a moderate extent at 18@18½c. Sugar Cured Hams are in fair request at 23@24c, canvassed and packed.

Cincinnati Fruit Market.

February 27.—The receipts of green apples have been larger, but with an active demand prices rule well maintained. We quote prime West—in at $4 00@5 00 per bbl; choice Northern and Eastern, $6 50@7 50. Dried apples have declined to $6 50@7 50 per box, and lemons to $6 00@8 00 per box. Dried apples are in fair demand at 12@14c for good to prime. Peaches are dull at 16@17c for quarters, and 17@20c for halves. Foreign dried fruits are lower. We quote: Zante currants at 16@17c; citron, 45@50c; dates, 16@17c; French prunes, 19@20c; Turkish do, 16@17c; figs, 16@20c per lb; M. R. raisins, $4 50@4 60 per box; layer do, $4 60@4 70.

Coal at Cincinnati.

February 27.—The river at Pittsburgh is sufficiently high to enable tows to leave, and a considerable amount has been cleared for this and points below. This has caused a dull market and prices are 2c lower. We now quote delivered at 10 to 11c; 9 bushel carriers and Youghiogheny at 14c. The rates delivered to consumers have been reduced to 14 to 16c for Ohio river, and 18 to 20c for Youghiogheny.

Cincinnati Glass Market.

February 27.—The market still remains firm at the net card rates. We quote:

Window glass, single strength, per box of 50 feet, 8x 10, $5 75; 10x12, $6 10; 10x14, $6 00; 10x15 and 10x20, $6 85. Other sizes in proportion.

Cincinnati Alconol Market.

February 27.—Prices declined early in the week to $4 48@4 50 for 98 per cent. proof, and the usual discount to the trade, but closes steady at these rates.

Milwaukee Markets.

February 26.—Flour—Quiet at $4 50@7 00 for spring extras.

Grain—Wheat easier, with sales at the morning board of 60,000 bu, at $1 18@1 18½ cash—$1 18½ buyer all month; the noon board sales were 3,000 bu, at $1 18½@1 18½ cash; the 5 P. M. board sales were 20,000 bu, at $1 18½@1 18½ cash—closing at the outside figure.

Provisions—Dull. Sales: 50 bxs sweet pickled hams at 15½c; 50 bxs light weights at 16c; 40 kegs, prime city lard at 17½c. Receipts—Flour, 3,000 bbls; wheat, 2,000 bu; corn, 2,000 bu.

New York Finance and Trade

NEW YORK, February 28.

STOCKS.

Railway speculation assumed a firmer tone this morning, and prices were generally better. Erie and Rock Island were the features of the list, and the advance on these shares was more than sufficient to cover all regular board. the market was a little stiffer, but quite strong at the quotations. The market at the second regular board and last open board, was heavy and lower, especially on New York Central and Pittsburgh and Rock Island. At the close the market was a little more steady.

The following were the closing prices at 4:30 P. M.: New York Central, 91¾; Erie, 83¾; Hudson River, 102; Reading, 103; Michigan Southern, 76¾; Cleveland and Pittsburgh, 77¾; Rock Island, 101¾; North Western, 27¾; North Western preferred, 54¾; Fort Wayne, 97¾.

GOVERNMENTS

Were a trifle firmer, but the market was rather quiet.

MONEY.

The money market is steady for call loans at 7 per cent, but the supply of capital is increasing.

GOLD.

The gold market was steady and quiet to-day, and closed at 138¾.

STATE BONDS

Were quiet and firm. The miscellaneous list was firm and better in some respects. Western Union Telegraph, 69¾@69¾.

PETROLEUM STOCKS.

The market was more active to-day. There was a heavy business done in Pithole Creek, and the stock rose to 1 ₱ Palmer on the 30 days, and to 1 ₱ cash with more doing. United States and Reindeer did not were steady. Gold stocks were dull, and sales mostly at lower prices. Bellechoff Run, 15 10; Bellechoff Farm, 70; Bradley, 36; Empire, 42; Keystone, 1 25; Hamilton McClintock, 1 15; Shade River, 1 18; Shade River, 1 40; United States, 16 40; Webster, 58.

PETROLEUM.

The market continues dull and depressed though at the close there is little better tone. Crude is quoted at 20@23c; Refined in bond at 44@46c.

MINING STOCKS.

Kipp & Buell, $2 50; New York Gold, $1 20; Smith & Parmlee, $12 00.

NEW YORK, February 28.—Some of the banks have withdrawn their deposits from the Sub-Treasury, while there is a steady gain of currency through receipts from the west. The street is well supplied with money at call at 6@7 per cent; rather a preponderance of transactions at the lower rate. Discounts are rather more active; paper has a firmer tendency, but at first rates, prime bills being 7@8 per cent., and good at 8@9 per cent. It is impossible to conceal the fact at present that the street is loud and unanimous in its complaint against the manner in which the Sub-Treasury affairs are conducted. The transactions are made entirely through one broker, a relative of the Head of the Department. During the last two weeks fifteen million dollars of gold have been sold in this way at the ordinary commission of ⅛ per cent. Such large operations have a handsome brokerage, which it is very naturally felt should not be confined to any one. Checks are as quiet, except two or three roads under clique management, which are rather quiet. Gold remains steady at about yesterday's quotations. The customs demand is moderate.

The *Post* says: Wall street is more animated to-day, in consequence of the rise, which is extensively believed, that all loan bills will be made convertible into stations, and that the temper of Congress is hostile to all measures looking toward the contraction of the greenback currency. this is interpreted to be favorable to higher prices, and is already having that effect in stimulating speculation. It is rumored that the Secretary of the Treasury is negotiating for lines of credit in London by some of the leading railway companies, many of the lines of railroad which form the scheme of the plans proposed by Sir Morton Peto, when in this country, but nothing is certainly known.

Philadelphia Stock Market.

[From Work, McCouch & Co., Stock and Exchange Brokers.]

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

PHILADELPHIA, February 28.—Saint Nicholas, 44; Maple Shade, 45½; Curtis, 3; Dalzell, 18; Caldwell, 3; McFlimsey, 1½; Excelsior, 1½; Oil Creek and Cherry Run, ¼; Cornplanter, 94; Sugar Creek, 2½; Elderado, ¾; Mingo, 1½; unchanged. Sales at Philadelphia, Lancaster and Cherry Run, ¾; Green, 14½; Mahanoy, 5.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

CHICAGO MARKET.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

CHICAGO, February 28, 1866.

Business is a shade more active to-day, operators taking some heart from the rise of produce, and manifesting some disposition to engage in transactions. The demand for money is better, and the banks having but a small supply, are discriminating strongly on 3 paper offered.

FLOUR—Is in moderate demand, and the upper grades are firmer, but not quotably higher.

WHEAT—Is active, and in a feeling firm, No. 1 Spring opening at $1 23, and closing at $1 24.

CORN—In good demand, but an advance of ¾c discourages buyers, and the sales were light at 37c for No. 2; trifling sales of No. 1 made at 41@41¾c and No. 3 at 36@36c. There was a good demand for spring delivery, but no sales effected, holders asking 44@45c for No. 1, afloat, buyers offering 43½@44c.

OATS—Were moderately active at yesterday's range, 34½@35c for No. 1, and 21@21½c for No. 2.

RYE—Is held firmly above yesterday's figures, buyers freely offering 60c for No. 1, and 48c for No. 2 without takers.

BARLEY—Neglected.

SEEDS—More active but unchanged, at $3 00@3 15 for timothy; $8 75 for clover, and $2 00 for flax.

HOGS—Were active, at $5 75@6 00 for choice lots, and $5 25@5 65 for common to fair bacon grades, at which figures the entire supply, 3,300 head, was closed out.

By Associated Press.

CHICAGO, February 28—P. M.—Flour firm. Wheat firm and a shade higher at $1 24@1 24¾ for No. 1 and 82@83c for No 2. Corn quiet at 44c. Oats quiet. Highwines dull. Provisions steady. Sales of 1,400 bbls mess at $25 50@26 00 for old, and $25 12½@25¾ for new; pickled hams quiet at 17c. Bulk and English meats nominal. Corn shipped for St. Louis, with a fair trip. The Nora leaves to-day for Cincinnati. The Leni Leoti leaves to-day for Parkersburg, in place of the Oil Regions, besides four boats. A fair sized fleet of boats is now engaged in navigating that stream. Heavy oil receipts are expected during the week. On the Monongahela landing business was not so active; freights were scarce, particularly to communities and towns adjacent to